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One Tribe One Mission

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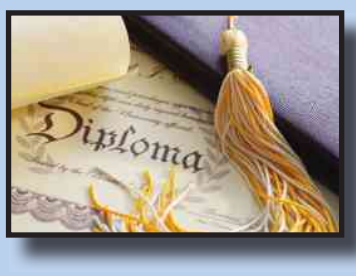

Chickasaw Graduates Section Inside

Upcoming Events

Patta Butcher Silk Painting Class
May 9, 10 a.m.-Noon
Artesian Gallery & Studios, Sulphur, Okla.
Contact: (580) 622-8040

Mother's Day Celebration
May 9-10
Chickasaw Cultural Center, Sulphur
Contact: (580) 622-7130

GOURDget Class Ada with Dustin Mater
May 12, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Arts & Humanities Building, Ada, Okla.
Contact: (580) 272-5520

Armed Forces Day
May 16
Chickasaw Cultural Center, Sulphur
Contact: (580) 622-7130

Veterans Conference
May 18
WinStar World Casino & Resort
Thackerville, Okla.
Contact: (580) 795-9790

GOURDget Class Sulphur with Dustin Mater
May 19, 2-4 p.m.
ARTesian Gallery & Studios, Sulphur
Contact: (580) 622-8040

Movie Night at Boggy Depot
May 22
Boggy Depot Historic Park, Atoka, Okla.
Contact: (580) 371-9835

ARTesian Arts Festival
May 23
Artesian Plaza
Sulphur
Contact: (580) 421-5492

NAJA
Native American Journalists Association

Chickasaw Times Online

Gov. Anoatubby announces 3,200 have purchased Chickasaw plates

April's InterTribal Council hosted at WinStar

From left, Gov. Bill Anoatubby, Choctaw Nation Principal Chief Gary Batton, Cherokee Nation Deputy Principal Chief Joe Crittenden, Seminole Nation Principal Chief Leonard Harjo, and Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief George Tiger. The leaders met at the Inter Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes in April. The meeting was hosted by the Chickasaw Nation at WinStar World Casino and Resort . Photo by Jacqueline Sparks.

THACKERVILLE, Okla. – During his remarks to the April 10 meeting of the Inter Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes, Governor Bill Anoatubby announced 3,200 Chickasaw citizens had purchased Chickasaw Nation license plates statewide since Feb. 2.

"While we offer a rebate to citizens who buy Chickasaw license plates, most of those who purchase them do it out of a source of pride," Gov. Anoatubby said.

Those attending the public relations and communications session April 9 were treated to the award-winning documentary *First Encounter.* The Chickasaw Nation-produced film won first place in short documentary competition at Duncan's Trail Dance Film Festival in January.

First Encounter explores the winter of 1540-41 when the Chickasaw Nation faced off against Spanish conquistador Hernando De Soto. It was the first time Chickasaws living in the Southeast ancestral homelands had laid eyes on Europeans. The film documents how the Chickasaws initially resisted De Soto's expedition, tolerated the Spaniards through the winter and then virtually destroyed them when demands for Chickasaw slaves – men and women – were made by De Soto.

Gov. Anoatubby said the film was the first of several planned for the Chickasaw Heritage Series.

Gov. Anoatubby also announced the Nation's feature film *Te Ata* was in post-production status. The film follows the early life of Mary Francis Thompson Fisher, a Chickasaw actress and storyteller who was honored as Oklahoma's first "State Treasure" in 1987, was inducted in the Oklahoma Hall of Fame in 1957, and also is an inductee into the Chickasaw Nation Hall of Fame.

During his remarks, Gov. Anoatubby also said the tribe had plans to build a new convention center at WinStar World Casinos at Thackerville.

Groundbreaking for the new 60,000 square-foot facility is expected to take pace this spring.

Leaders of the Five Civilized Tribes and members of the Inter-Tribal Council passed eight resolutions at the April meeting. Seminole Nation Principal Chief Leonard Harjo took over the reigns as president of the organization at the meeting. He will serve for one year.

Resolutions passed unanimously by voting members included:

- Support for passage of Oklahoma House Bill 1034, which will amend the Oklahoma Charter Schools Act currently introduced in the Oklahoma Legislature. The council said it supported the amendment and "opportunity provided (in the bill) as charter schools would provide tribes the same educational accreditation as state and local education agencies."
- Backed the nomination of Cherokee Nation Treasurer Lacey Horn to the Unites States Treasury Tribal Advisory Committee. Citing a multitude of tax codes that could adversely affect Native people, Ms. Horn's nomination was seen as critical so she could advise the committee of Native concerns.
- Opposed easing federal rules for tribal recognition by the federal government. The council said it believed such a measure would allow groups who have not enjoyed government-to-government relations to abandon the process of showing they were tribal communities and had political authority before 1790.
- Supported federal legislation that restores respect for

SEE **INTERTRIBAL**, PAGE 4

Veterans Conference set for May 18 at WinStar

Governor Bill Anoatubby

THACKERVILLE, Okla. - Gov. Bill Anoatubby and the Chickasaw Nation invite all Chickasaw veterans to the Chickasaw Veteran Conference and Warrior Society Kickoff Monday, May 18 at the tribe's WinStar World Casino & Resort in Thackerville.

The conference will honor Chickasaw veterans and present speakers who will share veteran programs and services.

"This will be a great day for Chickasaw veterans to come together to enjoy fellowship, receive great information and be honored for their service," Gov. Anoatubby said.

The conference will also include the Chickasaw Warrior Society Kickoff. Gov. Anoatubby will deliver the keynote address at the Warrior Society luncheon at 11:30 a.m.

Other conference speakers include James R. Floyd, FACHE, Director of the Jack C. Montgomery VA Medical Center in Muskogee, Okla.; and Rear Adm. Kevin Meeks, Director of the Oklahoma City Area of the U.S. Indian Health Service.

There will also be presentations from Grace After Fire, an organization that helps women veterans achieve self-renewal; and Canine Companions, a group that provides assistance dogs to people with disabilities.

"We very much look forward to seeing all our Chickasaw veterans and friends at the conference," Gov. Anoatubby said.

To RSVP for the conference, call Stacy Wesberry at (580) 795-9790. For more information, visit chickasaw.net/vetconf.

Eyeglasses benefit increased to $200

ADA, Okla. - Chickasaw citizens will now receive an increased allowance for prescription eyeglasses and contact lenses.

The tribe announced last month the allowance would be raised from $150 to $200. This benefit amount is for a 24-month period.

The increase is effective May 1.

"This increase is one part of our comprehensive efforts to help Chickasaws meet their health care needs," Gov. Bill Anoatubby said. "We will continue to explore ways to expand our services. We understand health care is a top priority for the Chickasaw people."

There is no age restriction attached to the eyglasses benefit. Glasses and contacts must be purchased through Oklahoma Optical.

Oklahoma Optical is a tribally-owned lens manufacturing business with locations in Ada, Ardmore, Purcell and Tishomingo, Oklahoma.

Oklahoma Optical also provides mail order service. The Eyeglasses Program is available to citizens living both inside and outside Chickasaw Nation boundaries.

For more information about the Eyeglasses Program, citizens can call toll free (866) 466-1481, ext. 83261 or 80920 or direct (580) 559-0792.

ARTesian Arts Festival set for May 23 in Sulphur

SULPHUR, Okla. - The Chickasaw Nation will host the annual ARTesian Arts Festival, Saturday, May 23, Memorial Day weekend, at the Artesian Plaza in Sulphur.

A community celebration of all forms of art, the ARTesian Arts Festival highlights Native artists and art.

Activities for all ages are planned, including a special area for children's activities and a senior citizens' arts and crafts booth.

The festival will highlight diverse art media. A variety of visual art will be on display at dozens of artist booths. The festival will feature paintings, basketry, jewelry, sculpture, metalworking, bead work, textiles and pottery. Artists will also be demonstrating, sharing and discussing their craft at the ARTesian Art Gallery.

Sixteen bands will provide continuous entertainment on two stages. The lineup includes noted musical act Injunuity. The band blends various musical genres into a unique Native sound. Injunuity has won multiple Native American Music Awards (NAMMYS) and is internationally recognized as a headliner at foreign music festivals.

More than 70 artists renowned nationally and across Indian Country are preparing for the festival.

They include Joanna Underwood, a Chickasaw potter whose work has been widely acclaimed for its beauty, quality and dedication to Southeastern tradition. She also is responsible for works of art displayed in Oka Chokmasi (Beautiful Water) Park, located southwest of the Artesian Hotel. Festival-goers may rest and enjoy her works which incorporate soothing sounds of water.

Chickasaw artist Margaret Roach Wheeler, whose textile art and historically accurate Native American fashions have been featured in national magazines and other media, will also be at the festival.

Also scheduled to participate is Chickasaw artist Mike Larsen, whose painting of an Oklahoma sunrise inspired a U.S. postage stamp and whose portraits and stories of 48 Chickasaw elders fill the pages of two books. Larsen also created "The Arrival"

SEE **ARTESIAN**, PAGE 4

CHICKASAW

VETERANS CONFERENCE and Warrior Society

KICK OFF

Monday 18 MAY 2015

WinStar World Casino & Resort
THACKERVILLE, OKLAHOMA

"Join us as we honor the many Chickasaws who have served our country in the armed forces."

Bill Anoatubby, Governor
The Chickasaw Nation

The Chickasaw Nation is inviting all Chickasaw veterans and active duty military to help us create the Chickasaw Warrior Society.

Please join us May 18 at 11:30 a.m. for the Warrior luncheon and a very SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY
BILL ANOATUBBY, GOVERNOR
THE CHICKASAW NATION

Monday 18 MAY 2015

11:30 A.M.
WinStar World Casino & Resort
THACKERVILLE, OKLAHOMA

All Chickasaw veterans and active duty military are encouraged to attend. Following the luncheon, please visit the Warrior Society booth to sign up and share your thoughts.

Lunch will be provided.

AGENDA

8:30 A.M. - 9:45 A.M.	**Registration**
8:30 A.M. - 5:30 P.M.	**INFORMATION BOOTHS** *Veterans Administration and Chickasaw Nation*
10:00 A.M. - 10:30 A.M.	**Opening Ceremonies and Introductions** *Chickasaw Princesses, Chickasaw Honor Guard*
10:30 A.M. - 11:15 A.M.	**Keynote: James R. Floyd, FACHE** ***Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizen*** ***Director of Jack C. Montgomery VA Medical Center*** *James R. Floyd was appointed Director of the Jack C. Montgomery VA Medical Center in Muskogee, Okla. on Jan. 17, 2012. He is a 2009 graduate of VA's Executive Fellows Program and serves as a member of the Veterans Rural Health Advisory Committee.*
11:15 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.	**Break**
11:30 A.M. - 12:45 P.M.	**Warrior Society Luncheon with Keynote Address: Bill Anoatubby** ***Governor, The Chickasaw Nation***
1:00 P.M. - 1:30 P.M.	**Presentation: Grace After Fire** ***Speaker TBA*** *The vision of Grace After Fire is to help women veterans help themselves. They work diligently to meet their mission to provide the means for women Veterans to gain self-knowledge and self-renewal. Their motto is "We serve to protect the veteran, connect the resource and renew the women."*
1:30 P.M. - 2:15 P.M.	**Presentation: Canine Companions for Independence** ***Dawn Ramsey and Penela*** ***Linda McMahan and Fletcher*** *Canine Companions for Independence is a nonprofit organization that enhances the lives of people with disabilities by providing highly-trained assistance dogs and ongoing support to ensure quality partnerships.*
2:15 P.M. - 2:45 P.M.	**Break**
2:45 P.M. - 3:15 P.M.	**Presentation: Veterans Health Care** ***Rear Admiral Kevin Meeks, Indian Health Service*** *Rear Admiral Kevin Meeks, a citizen of the Chickasaw Nation, is Director of the Oklahoma City Area of the Indian Health Service (IHS), an agency within the Department of Health and Human Services.*
3:15 P.M. - 3:45 P.M.	**Closing**

Information Booths

WILL BE AVAILABLE 8:30 A.M. - 5:30 P.M.

To RSVP, contact Stacy Wesberry at (580) 795-9790 by May 11, 2015.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT CHICKASAW.NET/VETCONF

Upcoming Events *continued*

Memorial Day
May 23-24
Chickasaw Cultural Center, Sulphur, Okla.
Contact: (580) 622-7130

Natural Dye Gathering and Dye Workshop
May 29, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
ARTesian Gallery & Studios, Sulphur
Contact: (580) 622-8042

Gospel Singing at the Chickasaw White House
May 30, 5:30-10:30 p.m.
Chickasaw White House, Emet, Okla.

Emerson Family Reunion
Sunday, June 14,2015
Mill Creek School Cafeteria
Lunch served at noon!

Brad Deramus, director of operations at the Chickasaw Cultural Center in Sulphur, examines the texture of a centuries old remnant of a dugout canoe found by Florida students in 2000. The world-class exhibit "Dugout Canoes: Paddling through the Americas" will remain at the facility through Sept. 27, 2015. The exhibit was scheduled to close in May, but due to its popularity it will remain at the Cultural Center. "Dugout Canoes" features hands-on exhibits. Many tools used by Native Americans to build the vessels – some dating to 600 A.D. – are displayed as well.

Popular canoe exhibit to remain at Cultural Center through September

SULPHUR, Okla. - "Dugout Canoes: Paddling through the Americas," a landmark exhibition hosted by the Chickasaw Cultural Center, will extend its stay to one full year through Sept. 27, 2015, officials have announced.

The "Dugout Canoes" exhibit was scheduled to conclude May 6. However, the exhibit has been so popular its run has been extended. The exhibit is on loan from the state of Florida.

Thousands of people have visited the exhibit and thousands more are expected to enjoy it.

In 2000, a group of high school students from Gainesville, Florida discovered what is believed to be the largest treasure trove of ancient dugout canoes ever found. Crafted by the skilled hands of Native Americans hundreds and thousands of years ago, they served indigenous people in a multitude of ways. Experts estimate the ages of some of the canoes from 500 to 5,000 years old.

Experts look on the dugout canoe as the proverbial pickup truck of its day. The dugouts transported people to distant locations, acted as vessels to establish trading and exploration of worlds outside tribal boundaries and carried huge loads of fur and other trade goods to market.

On display at the exhibit is a pine dugout canoe that is hundreds of years old. Tools to make the impressive vehicles – some dating to 600 A.D. – are also on display. Chickasaw Cultural Center officials help guide visitors through the process of felling a single tree, working weeks to burn, carve and scrape the interior and then finish the vessel to be spacious and seaworthy.

Unfortunately, the high school class that discovered them also discovered many of the intact canoes could not be uprooted from their mud-caked resting places. To extract them would mean their destruction. Most of the 101 canoes found remain where they were discovered in Newnans Lake. There, they are protected by centuries of silt, mud and freshwater.

However, remnants of many canoes removed from Newnans Lake are displayed at the Chickasaw Cultural Center. Patrons are urged to touch them, examine the texture and be awestruck at how much could be accomplished by Native Americans using only primitive tools -- some fully constructed with stones before tribes traded for metal tools with Europeans.

About the Chickasaw Cultural Center

The Chickasaw Cultural Center is located at 867 Charles Cooper Memorial Road, Sulphur and is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon through 5 p.m. Sunday. Information may be obtained by phoning (580) 622-7130. Since opening in 2010, more than 300,000 visitors have enjoyed the Center, including worldwide travelers. It is the largest single-tribe cultural center in the nation, located on 109 acres and adjacent to the Chickasaw National Recreation Area. The Cultural Center features stomp dancing, crafts, cultural demonstrations and a world-class museum with art treasures.

CONTRIBUTED BY Gene Lehmann, Media Relations.

INTERTRIBAL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tribal labor sovereignty of tribal governments in the National Labor Relations Act. The council is seeking the Act "clarify tribal governments have parity with state, local and territorial governments" with respect to the Act.

· Favored SoonerCare Research and Demonstration Waiver Amendment request by the Oklahoma Health Care Authority for the Insure Oklahoma "Sponsor's Choice" Option. The council said allocations of resources create a disparity and underfunding to Native Americans, and the amendment would correct funding eligibility and patient acceptance if adopted.

· Opposed relocation of the Bureau of Indian Education office out of Oklahoma City. The council is opposed to removal of the office to Flandreau, South Dakota. The council argued the current plan reduces educational services to Indian students and tribal citizens residing in Oklahoma, Kansas and Texas.

· Supported the Fiscal Year 2016 budget of President Obama for Congress to establish a mandatory appropriation for contract support cost. Essentially, the council argued the Oklahoma City area had been in the bottom 25 percent of funding of Indian Health Areas and believes a stable budget for all Bureau of Indian Affairs and U.S. Indian Health Service programs strengthened the government-to-government relations enjoyed by the federal government and recognized tribes.

· Called for development of a "memorandum of understanding" between the Oklahoma Office of Juvenile Affairs and tribal government systems to provide comprehensive, restorative justice programs for Native youth. The council said research has shown tribal juvenile justice system support prevention, intervention and reintegration into tribal communities provides an equitable safety net for Native youth.

CONTRIBUTED BY Bethany Gill, Media Relations.

ARTESIAN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

sculpture, which depicts a Chickasaw family arriving in Indian Territory during the 1830s removal from the homelands. "The Arrival" is a permanent fixture at the Chickasaw Cultural Center in Sulphur.

The ARTesian Arts Festival is open to artists from all federally-recognized tribes. Artists will compete in a juried competition in 21 categories.

A cash award of $1,000 will be presented for first, $750 for second and $500 third place in each category. "Best of Show" winner will receive $2,000.

A variety of food vendors are scheduled to delight patrons.

Chickasaw artist Joanna Underwood will be one of the featured artists at the ARTesian Art Fair May 23.

The ARTesian Arts Festival is free and open to everyone. More than 4,500 art enthusiasts gathered for last year's inaugural ARTesian Arts Festival.

For more information about the ARTesian Arts Festival, contact Chickasaw Nation Arts & Humanities at (580) 272-5520, by email at artistinfo@chickasaw.net, or visit chickasawcountry.com/artesian-arts-festival. Follow #ARTesianFest on Chickasaw Country's Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for the latest information.

The Artesian Plaza is adjacent to the Artesian Hotel and Spa, 1001 W. First Street.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Lance, Media Relations.

Chickasaw storyteller Lorie Robins featured at Spirit Fest

Lorie Robins

Chickasaw storyteller Lorie Robins has been selected one of four featured storytellers for the 2015 Spirit of Oklahoma Storytelling Festival. The festival will be hosted June 12-13 by Southern Nazarene University. Storytellers from across the region will teach workshops, swap stories and perform story concerts.

Continuing the tradition of famed Chickasaw storyteller Te Ata, Ms. Robins travels across Oklahoma presenting traditional Southeastern stories to many organization and educational groups. Her talent in sharing tribal stories has taken her to travel to China in 2008 and Jordan in 2009.

Glenda Galvan, Chickasaw Nation Museum Director, introduced Ms. Robins to storytelling.

"I would go with her to surrounding schools and various functions and listen to her and watch how she had the whole audience of all ages enter another world," Ms. Galvan said.

Ms. Robins researches Chickasaw history and has been a member of the Chickasaw Living History Players since 1998. She has assisted in the writing of many scripts that continue to be performed today.

"I believe in the power of storytelling," Ms. Robins said. "Hearing a story can make one laugh, cry, relive a moment years past, forgive, create understanding and have an 'aha moment.' I have been blessed to be the keeper of the stories for my tribe and with that comes great responsibility. I am asked with keeping them safe, telling them and passing them down to another to tell."

For more information about the festival, visit www.territorytellers.org.

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All editorials and letters will become the property of the Chickasaw Times. Editorials must be signed by the author and include the author's address.
Deadline for submission is the 15th of each month prior to publication. Submissions can be mailed, faxed, hand-delivered or e-mailed.

We value our Chickasaw graduates and support their success!

GOV. BILL ANOATUBBY

Governor, the Chickasaw Nation

Nothing can match a good education. It is the key to greater appreciation of the world, and to the brightest possible future.

The Chickasaw Nation has historically been an "education tribe." For generations, Chickasaws have valued education and tribal government has supported its growth among the people at every turn.

When we were removed to our present homeland, schools were among the first institutions to appear. Chickasaws have consistently made an impact on their tribe, and on American society, by improving themselves through education.

In this May issue of *the Chickasaw Times*, you will learn about many young Chickasaws graduating high school across the country. These exceptional people, on the cusp of adulthood and productive lives, have now cleared that first important education hurdle.

Many will now choose to move ahead to college or university study in a wide variety of disciplines. Some of the Chickasaws you read about today will become teachers, engineers, managers, physicians, artists, accountants, attorneys, and so much more. They are on their way to making a huge and positive difference, not only for their own families, but for their tribe, their communities and their country.

We can't value a good education in simple dollars, but we know it takes resources for our students to hit their educational goals. And in today's world, a good education is expensive. Over the past four decades, the cost of a college education has risen faster than any other sector of the American economy, including health care. For today's students, getting a quality advanced education is very often out of reach.

For Chickasaw students, there are so many options! The Chickasaw Nation dedicates millions of dollars annually to all the things needed by our students to achieve educational success.

The tribe offers a vast menu of opportunities in education. Our students receive scholarships, grants, stipends, books, tutoring, housing, computers and much more – all provided by the Chickasaw Nation. And the vast majority of our students perform very well in school and attain their degrees. Then they are off and running to lives of success and fulfillment!

The tribe also invests in our students who choose different education paths. Many of our students choose to study a trade or skill through a vocational or technical school. Some serve apprenticeships on their way to trade journeyman status. Many choose to attain licenses, certificates or other levels of achievement in their selected course of study.

The Chickasaw Nation is there for them every step of the way!

At the Chickasaw Nation, we are dedicated to providing resources and support that allow our students every chance for success. We understand these young people are critically important to the future of our tribe, and we are totally committed to them and their goals.

Let's consistently encourage our students in their studies. Theirs is not an easy road, and we want each and every Chickasaw student to succeed.

Congratulations 2015 graduates! Your tribe is proud of you!

Travertine Nature Center

Chickasaw National Recreation Area full of history

SULPHUR, Okla. - In the heart of the Chickasaw National Recreation Area sits the first nature center constructed by the National Park Service west of the Mississippi River. Travertine Nature Center, straddling Travertine Creek, is a modern building inspired by the designs of Frank Lloyd Wright.

The Travertine Nature Center was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2010. It is unique to the registry. The Nature Center is less than 50 years old. The center represents the Park Service's transition into the modern environmental movement, the federal response to land management and the rich cultural history of the Chickasaw National Recreation Area.

The building demonstrates the use of "contemporary American modern architecture by the National Park Service." The architecture firm, Mackie and Kamrath, designed the nature center following the "organic" architecture principles exposed by Frank Lloyd Wright. The building was completed in 1969.

According to documents from the National Register of Historic Places, the Travertine Nature Center is, "An exemplary example of the federal response to the environmental movement of the 1960s at the local level, particularly the effort to educate the public while providing a means of back-to-nature entertainment and recreation."

Travertine Nature Center serves as the Chickasaw National Recreation Area's main educational facility. Located inside the building are live animal exhibits, diorama exhibits and an information desk. An auditorium able to accommodate 100 people allows ranger-led discussions and video presentations.

The rich and unique history of the park is also described at the Travertine Nature Center.

The Chickasaw National Recreation Area, known as Platt National Park until 1976, was occupied by members of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Civilian Conservation Corps during the Great Depression of the 1930s. The corps was created to put men and women to work who would otherwise be unemployed.

Within the Platt National Park National Historic Landmark District, the Civilian Conservation Corps was instrumental in many of the improvements and infrastructure park visitors enjoy today. The National Park Service designed and implemented a large number of landscape improvements that included building creek dams and spring pavilions, enlarging swimming areas, adding roads and trails, creating camp grounds, picnic areas and planting thousands of trees.

Few features of the Travertine Nature Center have changed since its construction. Exhibits at the center highlight the ecosystems found in southern Oklahoma and the significant water resources of the springs, creeks and lakes of the Chickasaw National Recreational Area.

Ranger-led programs are presented daily at the Travertine Nature Center over the course of the year. These programs include hikes to Antelope and Buffalo Springs, night hiking and a variety of discussions associated with the wildlife and history of the park.

The Evolution of Chickasaw Reservation to National Park

Chickasaw families first settled the area that would later become Chickasaw National Recreation Area after they were removed from their homelands east of the Mississippi River. By 1880, non-Indians moved into the area and began developing the land around the many springs as a resort. Hotels and bathhouses dotted the landscape and were able to accommodate thousands of visitors.

The healing waters of the area were considered sacred by the Chickasaw and Choctaw people, they feared losing them forever to private ownership.

As a result, in 1902, the Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations ceded 640 acres to the U.S. government for the purpose of creating Sulphur Springs Reservation, later designated Platt National Park and managed by the National Park Service. At the tribes' insistence, a promise was added to the agreement that the area could be used "by all men for perpetuity."

Platt National Park and the nearby Arbuckle Recreation Area were combined in 1976 and renamed the Chickasaw National Recreation Area to constitute a fitting memorialization the Chickasaws efforts to protect the springs.

Special thanks to Ron Parker and Ken Ruhnke of the National Park Service.

CONTRIBUTED BY KC Cole, Public Affairs.

From our princesses

Chickasaw Princess Taylor Weems

Chumka,

My name is Taylor Weems and I am the 2014-2015 Chickasaw Princess. I am the 18 year-old daughter of Loraine and Michael Weems. I am a senior at Latta High School.

One of the most significant things I have learned while being the Chickasaw Princess is to never give up. We recently went on a Homelands trip to Mississippi. This trip really opened my eyes to the struggles and hardships our ancestors went through during removal. I gained a lot of knowledge about our past while in Mississippi. It makes me very proud to say "Chikasha saya" and to know I am a part of the Great Unconquered and Unconquerable Chickasaw Nation. I am very thankful that we were able to have this type of experience during our reign.

I have great appreciation for our journeys and how far we have come as a Nation. I am so excited about attending the Gathering of Nations and the Miss Indian World pageant in Albuquerque, N.M. I can't wait to see all the tribes at Gathering Nations. It is a great honor and opportunity to represent the Chickasaw Nation during these cultural occasions.

Chukmaski,
Taylor Weems
2014-2015 Chickasaw Princess

Chickasaw Junior Princess Maegan Carney

Chukma,

My name is Maegan Carney. I am the 2014-2015 Chickasaw Junior Princess. I am the 16-year-old daughter of Richard and Angie Carney, and a sophomore at Ardmore High School. I am so grateful and happy that I was chosen to be an ambassador for the Chickasaw Nation. The Chickasaw Princess, Little Miss Chickasaw, our coordinator Mary Hartley and myself, have had a fantastic year.

One of my exciting experiences as Chickasaw Junior Princess was traveling to Tupelo, Mississippi, to learn and explore the Mississippi Homelands. Even though it was an incredibly long drive, it was a great opportunity to hear about our culture and learn about our connection to the homelands.

I have seen many places during my reign as Chickasaw Junior Princess. We took a tour of the George and Saliichi Colbert site with Raymond Doherty. We also toured Longtown sites such as the Natchez Trace Parkway Chickasaw Village site.

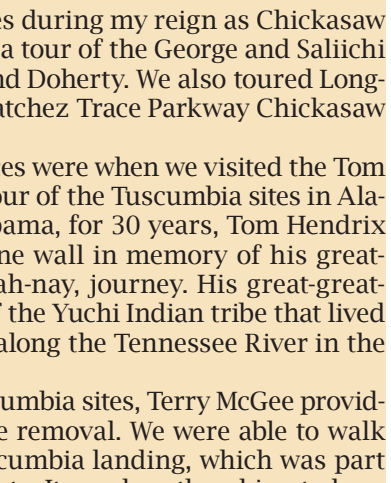
Two of my favorite places were when we visited the Tom Hendrix's Wall and the tour of the Tuscumbia sites in Alabama. In northwest Alabama, for 30 years, Tom Hendrix continues to build a stone wall in memory of his great-great-grandmother, Te-lah-nay, journey. His great-great-grandmother was part of the Yuchi Indian tribe that lived near Florence, Alabama along the Tennessee River in the 1800s.

On the tour of the Tuscumbia sites, Terry McGee provided us information on the removal. We were able to walk from Spring Park to Tuscumbia landing, which was part of the actual removal route. It was heartbreaking to hear about how our people were forced to relocate from their homes. They didn't get to fly on a plane or ride in a car, but had to walk for many months. It was sad that some of them died, but still our people did not give up.

This trip was educational and encouraging. I would love to go again and learn more about our homelands. I am thankful that the other Chickasaw princesses and I will continue to have opportunities to learn about our history, our culture and meet more wonderful people during our reign as the 2014-2015 Chickasaw princesses.

Yakoke!
Maegan Carney
2014-2015 Chickasaw Junior Princess

Little Miss Chickasaw Jazlyn Key



Chumka,

My name is Jazlyn Key. I am the 2014-2015 Little Miss Chickasaw. I am the nine-year-old daughter of Summer (Jones) Key and Joshua Key. I am in the third grade at Sulphur Intermediate School. It is an honor and privilege to serve the nation as Little Miss Chickasaw. I enjoy learning about our Chickasaw heritage and our language. I love being able to share my experiences and what I have learned about our culture and history with others. I have had a fun and exciting year. I am doing my best to proudly represent the Chickasaw Nation.

Chukmaski,
Jazlyn Key
2014-2015 Little Miss Chickasaw

Dialogue Institute presents 2015 Leadership Award to Gov. Anoatubby

OKLAHOMA CITY - Governor Bill Anoatubby received the Leadership Award from the Dialogue Institute April 7 at the 11th Annual Friendship Dinner and Awards Ceremony in Oklahoma City.

The nonprofit organization's mission is to promote mutual understanding, respect and cooperation among people of diverse faiths and cultures by creating opportunities for direct communication and meaningful shared experiences.

This year's dinner helped support YWCA programs and services which benefit victims escaping domestic violence.

From left, Ersin Demirci, Dialogue Institute executive director; Governor Bill Anoatubby; former Oklahoma Governor Brad Henry; and Mary Blakenship-Pointer, Republic Bank and Trust senior vice president.

'Full circle' for National Park Service veteran

Chickasaw citizen Bill Wright appointed Chickasaw National Recreation Area Superintendent

SULPHUR, Okla. – Chickasaw citizen Bill Wright has come full circle. He has recently been appointed Chickasaw National Recreation Area Superintendent and Oklahoma State Coordinator for the National Park Service.

As a youngster, he swam in the cold streams of Travertine Creek while visiting his grandparents during school breaks.

His grandfather, Lonnie Schafer, was a CNRA ranger for many years.

"I grew up here," Mr. Wright said. "I spent all my summers here and when I was in college I worked here seasonally, as a fee collector."

He credits this experience and his grandfather's influence to leading to his career choice: National Park Ranger.

"I always knew what I wanted to do," he said.

Over the past 30 years he has served as Chief Ranger at an array of National Parks, from the Everglades to Independence Hall, the Smokey Mountains to Big Bend. He currently serves as Chief Ranger at Grand Canyon National Park in Arizona.

During his tenure he has gained a wealth of experience and knowledge.

"Sulphur is where I always considered home," he said. "I would love to come back here. I am in a unique position. I grew up here, I am Chickasaw and my family is here."

Governor Bill Anoatubby said it was gratifying to see Mr. Wright serving the Chickasaw National Recreation Area.

"Bill Wright's personal connection with the Chickasaw National Recreation Area mirrors the historic connection the Chickasaw Nation has with the area," Gov. Anoatubby said. "Chickasaws recognized the intrinsic value of these streams and springs soon after we moved to Indian Territory in 1837. Some 65 years later, with statehood on the horizon, Chickasaw leaders transferred the land to the federal government because they understood how important it was to preserve this area for future generations."

Mr. Wright's Chickasaw roots run deep in this area. He can trace his lineage to Chickasaw Commissioner John McLish, and great-great-great-grandparents Mazeppa Turner and Laura Johnson-Turner, for whom Davis' Turner Falls in named.

"My Chickasaw heritage is something I have always been very proud and mindful of," he said. "I am very proud to be from Oklahoma and I am very proud to be Chickasaw."

His great-grandmother shared stories of the family's Chickasaw heritage with him when he was young.

"She always wanted us to know about our heritage," he said.

Mr. Wright graduated from Southeastern Oklahoma State University in Durant, his birthplace. He is also a National FBI Academy graduate.

In his role as CNRA Superintendent, he is excited about the new development in the Murray County area and the chance to strengthen partnerships and relationships with the community and the Chickasaw Nation.

"That would be my goal," he said. "There are a lot of opportunities, and several avenues for partnerships and some exciting things on the forefront."

Bill Wright

Upcoming partnership projects include proposed foot bridge from the Chickasaw Cultural Center to the western edge of the park and involvement with the upcoming ARTesian Arts Festival.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Lance, Media Relations.

Chickasaw Nation Youth Clothing Grant program accepting applications July 1

Chickasaw citizens ages three to 18 (through high school seniors) are eligible to apply for the $200 clothing grant once per school year.
Funds are distributed in the form of a VISA gift card.
The grant should be used for used for clothing purchases only.

To apply student must provide:

· *A Chickasaw citizenship card*
· *Most recent report card or progress report*

Qualifying applicants will be notified with an award letter via USPS

Additional program details can be found at www.chickasaw.net/ysclothinggrant

For more information or to obtain an application, contact Youth Services at (580) 272-5585 or clothinggrantprogram@chickasaw.net.

Partners with USDA in At-Risk Children's Feeding Program

Tribe leads Indian Country in combating child hunger

The Chickasaw Nation made history as it became the first Native American tribe in the U.S. to partner with the United States Department of Agriculture on a unique program to feed hungry children.

"Nowhere else in Indian Country do we have an Indian tribal organization feeding children in (the USDA's) At-Risk Children's Feeding Program," proclaimed Audrey Rowe, USDA Food and Nutrition Services Administrator.

The tribe and the USDA have partnered for many years to promote healthy lifestyles and fight hunger. This USDA grant program is unique in that it targets at-risk children on the medical center campus. If a child is examined or has a routine appointment at the medical center, the first question asked is "are you hungry or have you eaten today?" If the child answers 'no,' a nutritious, healthy meal is provided.

In addition, the program will provide a meal to any child at the medical center, even if the child is not receiving medical care.

Only two medical facilities in the nation are involved in the program to ensure children are fed, Rowe said. The other is Arkansas Children's Hospital in Little Rock.

"There is first-hand, innovative, out-of-the-box thinking that is going on here," Rowe said. "Together with the Chickasaw Nation we are feeding children at the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center, which I find really exciting."

"The leadership we see here is making this a reality for children in the Chickasaw Nation," Rowe continued, adding "the willingness to say 'yes' to the future is what Governor Bill Anoatubby is doing. He is saying yes to the future because he understands how important what we do today will be for future governors of the Chickasaw Nation," Rowe added.

Governor Bill Anoatubby greets Audrey Rowe, U.S. Department of Agriculture Administrator for the Food and Nutrition Service. Ms. Rowe visited the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center in Ada on April 8.

Gov. Bill Anoatubby and Secretary of the Chickasaw Nation Department of Health Dr. Judy Goforth Parker deliver free healthy meals to children at the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center in Ada on April 8

Rowe praised Gov. Anoatubby's "contribution, commitment, caring, and understanding. It is so refreshing."

During his remarks, Gov. Anoatubby cited statistics that show one in three families in this country live in poverty and one in five children go to bed hungry.

"That is just not right. It is unconscionable for any child to go hungry. That is why we are working with the USDA to help change that." Gov. Anoatubby said. "We are working diligently to help bring those statistics down because we're talking about more than a statistic, we're talking about people."

Gov. Anoatubby said the Chickasaw Nation's long partnership with the USDA is making it possible for the tribe to reach out and focus on young people.

"This is just another way we can contribute to the overall health and wellness of all the children who come to the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center. It is an investment in healthy lifestyles and we are very pleased to be partners with (USDA) in this endeavor," he said.

This announcement comes only a few weeks after the Chickasaw Nation was awarded a grant of $9.7 million to support the Chickasaw Nation Nutrition Services Demonstration Project to End Childhood Hunger, a program that will deliver food to homes with children who qualify for free school meals, Rowe announced. That Chickasaw Nation demonstration program will allow families to shop for groceries online to be delivered directly to their homes by the charity Feed the Children. Families will also receive benefit checks to buy fresh fruits and vegetables at authorized grocery stores, officials said.

CONTRIBUTED BY Gene Lehmann, Media Relations.

Gathering of conscience

'Stomp Out Sexual Assault Walk' draws hundreds

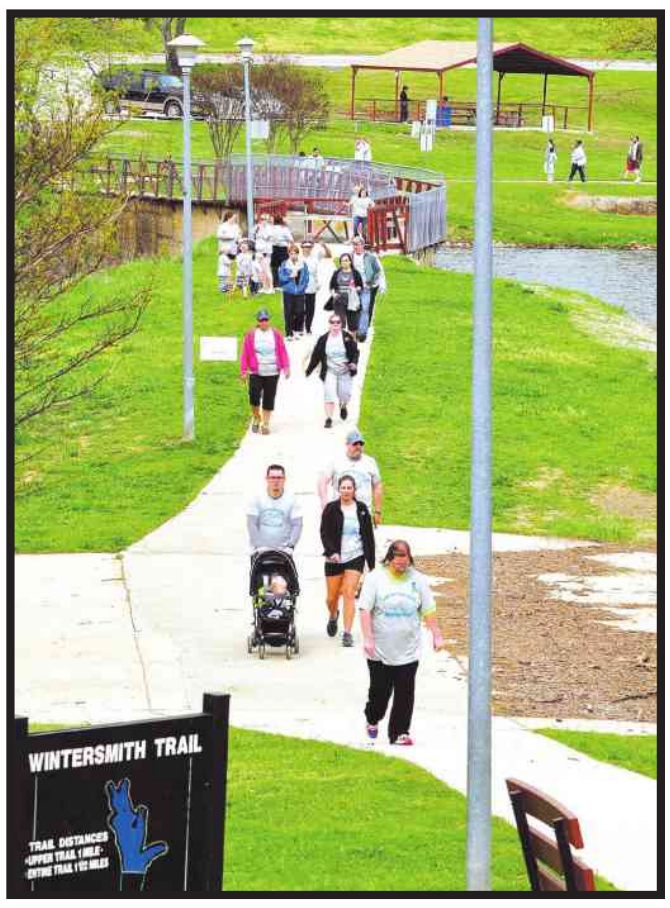
ADA, Okla. - Members of the community joined the Chickasaw Nation Office of Violence Prevention April 11 at Wintersmith Park in Ada to "Stomp out Sexual Assault." Emceed by Tishia Agee, of KCNP radio, and Joy Burris, the sexual assault advocate from violence prevention services, the event featured several guest speakers.

Chaplain Randy Wade of the Chickasaw Nation Department of Health offered the prayer and spoke about the significance of the blanket which was laid over a chair on the stage. Wade referenced the heritage of Chickasaws and that the blanket represented many necessities including shelter and protection. He said that, as Chickasaws and as a community, we needed to offer hope and care for victims and survivors.

The Chickasaw Nation Princesses gave a beautiful performance of The Lord's Prayer in sign language. "Amazing Grace" was performed by Melanie Cabaniss while purple balloons were released by the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center SANE nurses (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners).

While giving an inspiring history of the walk Chickasaw Nation Secretary of Family Services Jay Keel gave an inspiring story of the history of the walk. He shared that the tradition of the Chickasaws was to hold women in high regard.

John Hubbard, Pontotoc County Assistant District Attorney, described the prosecution process and the sometimes lengthy course of going through a trial. Mr. Hubbard commended the Chickasaw Nation for its efforts to stomp out the crime.



Several hundred Chickasaw citizens and people from Ada and surrounding communities took part in the Stomp Out Sexual Assault walk through Wintersmith Park on Saturday, April 11. The annual event seeks to call attention to sexual assault and domestic violence with hopes it will end through education and awareness.

Martial arts instructors from the Chickasaw Nation, Matt Guzman and Amanda Johns, demonstrated some self-defense moves and encouraged all in attendance, "from three to 103," to take classes, which are offered in several communities throughout the Chickasaw Nation.

The walk around the park commenced with Angela Connor, Family Support executive officer, leading the way. Families also were invited to enjoy free train and carousel rides, live entertainment, hot dogs and refreshments, as well as visit the many information booths.

For help regarding sexual assault or domestic violence, the Chickasaw Nation has a toll free number to provide help and resources to any citizen: (855) 405-7645.

Dylan Barnoski, of Stonewall, Okla., and Elijah Factor, of Latta, Okla., both members of Chickasaw Youth Leadership. Photo by Carmen Carter.

CONTRIBUTED BY Tamara Roberts, Public Affairs.

Dr. Garber brings advanced optometry to very remote parts of Indian Country

A Chickasaw Nation Department of Health optometrist has been sharing his expertise with Native patients in remote parts of Alaska.

Dr. John Garber has, for the past five years, assisted with visits and procedures at the SouthEast Alaska Regional Health Consortium. Dr. Garber, a longtime U.S. Public Health Service and Chickasaw Nation optometrist, was recently awarded a Five Year Service Award by the Consortium.

Dr. John Garber

During his last visit to Alaska, Dr. Garber traveled to two outlying communities served by the Consortium. He worked with providers and patients in Hoonah and Angoon and helped guide the new Hoonah medical facility with recommendations on ophthalmic instrumentation.

Dr. Garber, OD, FAAO, has assisted with more complicated cases in the Alaska setting. The outlying communities are accessible only by air or ferry, so elderly patients often have difficulty getting to proper care.

"Dr. Garber provides excellent care in remote settings and we are truly appreciative," Director of Eye Care Services Capt. Shannon Farr, OD, said. "I am the only Indian Health Service optometrist in Juneau, and it is important to me to have my patients see an eye care provider with Dr. Garber's skills and experience."

May 31 is 'World No Tobacco Day'

The Chickasaw Nation has partnered with the State of Oklahoma to encourage anyone wanting to stop tobacco use to get help. If you are a Native American living in Oklahoma, or anywhere in the United States, there are numerous resources to help. By calling 1-800-Quit-Now, you will be connected to someone in the state from which you are calling.

Graduating high school and turning 18? Remember to register to vote!

Hello everyone,

I hope all of you are enjoying our beautiful spring weather.

Since this is the month of May, students will be graduating from High School soon opening the door to a new chapter of their lives. Some maybe preparing for college, others for technical school and many will be entering the workforce on a full time basis. In any situation, as the student turns 18 years of age, they are of legal voting age.

CONNIE BARKER
Chairman
Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Voting for leadership is a very important responsibility that each citizen should take part in, whether it is a municipal, state, federal or tribal election. As our young citizens turn 18 and graduate this year, please encourage them to become registered voters within the Chickasaw Nation. Completing a simple form which can be obtained online, or in the mail is a terrific way for your student to take part in the future of their tribe.

In April I attended the National Indian Health Board's Tribal Health Summit in California. During the conference I had the privilege of representing the Chickasaw Nation as a presenter and panelist during the final plenary of the session. We focused on diabetes in Indian Country and how physicians and tribal members can work together to provide the best outcomes for each citizen. There is still much work to be done in the treatment and prevention of diabetes, but with education and outreach, hopefully someday this will be a disease of the past.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your tribal Legislator for the Pickens District.

Connie Barker

Tribe's Storm Shelter program a lifesaver for citizens across the nation

Chokma!

Greetings from the Tishomingo District!

Spring is here and thankfully many of us are receiving much-needed rain.

Along with the blessing of rain, unfortunately, spring storms can turn severe in a matter of minutes. These storms can lead to devastating tornadoes, floods and other natural disasters; not only in Oklahoma but in all parts of the country.

TIM COLBERT
Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

The Chickasaw Nation can help our citizens be better prepared for bad weather with the Storm Shelter program.

The program is one way our citizens can be safe from the storm and ease the worry of finding shelter during bad weather.

This program provides storm shelters for privately-owned homes of all Chickasaw citizens.

Within tribal boundaries, Chickasaw citizens can apply for a storm shelter to be installed at their home. Shelters can be provided on a one-time basis in order to meet the needs of all Chickasaws.

The Storm Shelter program for our Chickasaw citizens who live outside the Chickasaw Nation service area began in October 2006.

This program provides a one-time grant to the citizen for the installation of a storm shelter. The program has no income restrictions.

Since the program's inception, there have been hundreds of storm shelters provided to Chickasaw families who live both inside and outside the traditional Chickasaw Nation boundaries.

Having a family plan in case of bad weather is also a good idea as well as a basic disaster kit containing a flashlight, extra batteries; a battery operated radio, a first-aid kit and water.

Keep these items in a place that is easily accessible during an emergency.

As with all our helpful programs, the Storm Shelter program is designed to keep our citizens safe and to help fulfill the Chickasaw Nation's mission to enhance the lives of all Chickasaws.

For more information about the Storm Shelter Program, call (580) 421-8800 or visit www.Chickasaw.net.

Please be safe this spring and summer, whether you plan to travel or stay at home.

As always, thank you for allowing me to serve as your representative on the Chickasaw legislature. It is a privilege and an honor to serve you.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Tim Colbert
Tim.Colbert@chickasaw.net
580-421-7242

Don't miss out on May's Veterans' Conference, ARTesian Art Festival!

Chokma, chinchokma, Hello, how are you?

May is the month for graduations. Congratulations to all of our Chickasaw graduates, from our youngest Head Start graduates to our college graduates, and everyone in between. Be proud of your accomplishments and know that you have a wonderful support system here in the Chickasaw Nation. Congratulations also to our 2015 Chickasaw Nation Hall of Fame inductees, Thelma "Chincie" Ross of Tuttle, Okla.; Homer Paul of Oklahoma City; Rose Jefferson of Ada, Okla.; and the family of the late Rev. Jeff Frazier. Thank you for giving of yourselves and living your lives in such a way as to bring honor to the Chickasaw people. Another group of young people that I want to congratulate is the Chipota Chikashshanompoli Language Club for taking first place this year at the Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair, which is held at the Sam Noble Museum in Norman, Okla. May is full of activities for which you and your family can participate, so be sure to check the website calendar at www.chickasaw.net often, so you don't miss a thing. Something new this year will be a Veterans Conference on May 18 at our own Winstar Resort. If you are a veteran or currently in the military, you are invited to attend the conference. For more information and to register, you can call (580) 795-9790. The Second Annual Artesian Art Festival will be on May 23 outside of our beautiful Artesian Hotel and Spa in Sulphur, Okla. There are also lots of special activities planned throughout the month at the Cultural Center in Sulphur for Mothers' Day, Armed Forces Day, and Memorial Day. One of my favorite places to visit is the Chickasaw White House near Tishomingo, Okla. On May 30, there will be a Gospel Singing from 5 to 10 p.m. at the White House. The grounds of the White House are always beautiful, and sitting and rocking on the front porch brings back lots of memories of days gone by. Please let me know if I can help you in any way!

NANCY ELLIOTT
Secretary
Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Chipisala cho anowa, Until I see you again,
Nancy
Pontotoc District Seat 2
Nancy.Elliott@Chickasaw.net
580-399-4374

New battered women's shelter, alcohol rehab center approved

Chukma and greetings from Legislator Mary Jo Green, Seat 5, Pontotoc District. Last month the Legislature approved the building of a battered women's shelter and a women's alcohol rehabilitation center on the grounds of the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center (CNMC) in Ada. These and the addition of a veterans' center will allow the Nation to provide many more services at the CNMC.

MARY JO GREEN
Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

We also tried to attend all the community councils across the Nation. On a personal note, I had cataracts on both eyes removed. Hello world!! I can see much better! Also, my dear friend Dougie Johnston passed away. We are saddened by her passing.

The Chickasaw Nation hosted the Inter-Tribal Council at Winstar in April. Several Legislators were in attendance. All five tribal leaders attended as usual and many of the directors of tribal programs across eastern Oklahoma shared their programs with the other tribes.

The Dynamic Women's Conference was held at the Artesian and Cultural Center on April 16 and 17 this year. The conference continues to grow each year. The current Dynamic Woman is Dr. Karen Goodnight, daughter of Legislator Dean McManus. We're proud of you, Karen!

The Education Department is busy getting ready for graduation. Head Start graduation in Ada will be May 12 at 10:30 am in the Chickasaw Community Center; in Tishomingo will be May 12 at 1:30 pm at Calvary Baptist Church; in Ardmore will be May 14 at 10:30 am at the Ardmore Community Center; and also on May 14 in Sulphur at 1:30 at the First Freewill Baptist Church. We always enjoy watching the little ones!

Please help me welcome new members of the Division of Health: Dr. Andrew Sears, Ardmore Family Practice; Dr. Charles Mitchell, Surgery; Physician's Assistant Alex Wilson (Surgery); and Dr. George Andricopopolous (Ardmore Family Practice). The number of patient visits for March were: Internal Medicine, 656; Emergency, 4,402; Pediatric, 1,665; Dental, 3,625; Family Practice, 4,710; OBGYN, 62 and Surgery, 467. That's a lot of folks getting good health care!

Did you know that the Ada Senior site has a gift shop? The Ada seniors use the profits for different projects that assist members of the Ada site. Please come and shop the Ada Senior Center Gift Shop. You will find quality merchandise and you will be helping a very good cause.

Chi ihullo li! I would love to hear from you. My email address is mary.green@chickasaw.net and my address and telephone number are listed elsewhere in this and every issue of *the Chickasaw Times* and on the Chickasaw Nation web site. Until next time, I wish God's blessings on all of our people. Thank you. Chipisala'cho!

Much appreciation to our Chickasaw veterans for their years of service

We always appreciate our people in the military and public service for their dedication to our country and their communities. The Chickasaw Nation is blessed to have many tribal members who have served their country in one capacity or another.

I would like to recognize one of our Chickasaw elders on his accomplishments not only to his country, but also his community. Chickasaw elder Paul Wilson recently retired from the Tishomingo Fire Department with thirty-five years of service to the department. Mr. Wilson was the Tishomingo Fire Chief from December 4, 2007 until February 18, 2015. Paul began his career in the Public Works Department in 1973 and transferred to the fire department in 1980. Mr. Wilson was awarded firefighter of the year in 1980, 1985, and 1989.

SCOTT WOOD
Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Paul served 4 years in the United States Marines from 1968-1972. Three of those years were served in Vietnam. He currently serves on the Chickasaw Nation Honor Guard which participates in various tribal functions, patriotic activities, military honors at funerals, and memorial services.

Paul and his wife Sharon have been married for 46 years. He has one son and daughter and six grandchildren.

Congratulations to Paul on a wonderful career and service to your community. We appreciate all the years of service to the Tishomingo Fire Department. Enjoy your retirement!

Chipisala cho anowa, (Until I see you again)
Scott Wood
Tishomingo District Seat 1
Scott.wood@chickasaw .net, (580)221-1430

Wonderful gathering at Central and South Texas Community Council!

Chukma!

I recently had the pleasure of visiting with Chickasaws from the Central and South Texas Chickasaw Community Councils. What a great group of people! Thank you for making those of us who attended feel welcome, as always. I am so proud to meet Chickasaws around the country and very talented ones at that! We have so many varying talents within our tribe. I am proud of the many opportunities we provide our citizens to enhance their talents with the camps, workshops and art festivals we hold, to name a few.

SHANA HAMMOND
Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

One of those venues in which we provide opportunities for our Chickasaw artists to display their work is at the Artesian Arts Festival. It will be held May 23 at the Artesian Hotel in Sulphur, OK. Plan to attend so you can experience the art and culture of Southeastern American Indian artists. You can also enjoy food, live music and children's activities. It will be a great family event.

Blessings,

Shana Tate Hammond
(580) 236-1438
shana.hammond@chickasaw.net

Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. ~Colossians 3:16

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*MUST SHOW CDIB CARD TO CASHIER BEFORE FUELING TO RECEIVE CREDIT.
Every time you fill up at your local Chickasaw Travel Stop, you're supporting:
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You're also getting 100% gasoline with the highest quality pump filtration available, not to mention our friendly customer service!
Choose CTS and invest in your future.
1500 N COUNTRY CLUB ADA
288 MULBERRY LN WILSON
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EXIT 55 EAST, I-35 DAVIS
EXIT 1, I-35 THACKERVILLE
Invest in your future. BUY CHICKASAW CTS

Resolutions include new Information Center to be built in Tishomingo

Chokma,

I hope all is well with you and your family.

I've been traveling a lot lately. I attended a combined South and Central Texas Chickasaw Community Council meeting in San Marcos, and the St. Louis council in Missouri, plus have plans to visit the Wichita council this coming weekend. With 21 community councils in locations around the country, Chickasaws are coming together to learn about tribal programs, celebrate our history and culture, and make lasting connections with each other.

TOBY PERKINS

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

In Legislative Session there are a couple resolutions on the agenda I want to bring to your attention. The first is for the demolition and removal of the Miko building in Ada. Due to below grade leaks and mold issues the structure is uninhabitable. There is also a resolution for a new Information Center in Tishomingo. The 10,765 square foot center will be a wonderful resource for visitors exploring the area. The structure will house office space for the Division of Tourism, the Department of History and Culture, and the Office of Special Events as well as the Johnston County Historical Society and the Tishomingo Chamber of Commerce.

The Chickasaw Nation is hosting the second annual Artesian Arts Festival, Saturday, May 23, at the Artesian Plaza in Sulphur. The festival booths will display all types of visual art such as paintings, basketry, jewelry, sculpture, bead work, textiles and pottery. Talented Chickasaw artists Joanna Underwood, Margaret Roach Wheeler, and Mike Larsen will be there. The festival will also include some great music from artists performing a variety of styles including native flute and country. Last year was a huge success, and I look forward to the event being bigger and better this year. If you need more information about the Festival, please contact the Division of Arts and Humanities at (580) 272-5520 or by email at artistinfo@chickasaw.net. Hope to see you there.

I would love to hear from you. Please contact me with your concerns, needs or questions. I am here to help.

May God bless you and your family.

Toby Perkins, Legislator
Pontotoc District, Seat 1
580-399-2606
toby.perkins@chickasaw.net

Chickasaw kids come to Cultural Center at Easter for giant egg hunt!

Greetings from the Tishomingo District! I hope you and your family had a very Happy Easter. I hope that everyone had an opportunity to spend some time with family and friends as I did. This Easter we had a celebration at the Chickasaw Cultural Center in Sulphur, OK. It was there that I was about to witness one of the most magnificent egg hunts I have ever seen. It wasn't just my grandchildren, but hundreds of little Chickasaw children. Kids who were on a mission. There was a search for approximately 10,000 Easter eggs. Yes I meant thousand, not hundreds. I have never seen such and Easter egg event. If you have not been, you should definitely attend. It is something to see. Not to mention all of the amazing cultural demonstrations going on while you're there. I even picked up some pashofa corn seeds and decorative corn seeds to plant in my garden. Maybe in a month or two I will have some progress pictures to go along with my story.

STEVEN WOODS

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

I also noticed at the Cultural Center that next month they were having a Cultural Camp. It will be a day camp for students on June 3 and June 4, 2015. It will give the students a chance to experience cultural activities, traditional games, stomp dance, Chickasaw language, and crafts. Transportation is not provided. If you want to know more about it contact Cultural Resources (580) 622-7140.

The month of May means that we are in the middle of severe storm season. It also means that some of the school age kids will soon be home for the summer. Make sure your family has a storm plan and knows what to do in case of bad weather. According to OKC.GOV tornado safety, more than 80 percent of all tornadoes strike between noon and midnight. So having a plan for kids who will suddenly be home during the day is essential.

As always, please continue to share your ideas, questions and concerns. It is truly my pleasure to get to hear from you.

Your Legislator,

Steven Woods
Tishomingo District, Seat 3
Steve.Woods@Chickasaw.net

One great thing about visiting California is the home-grown lemons!

In April I shared a picture of Louis and Oleta Mutz and the fact that they were MIA. I am so pleased to share "the rest of the story". Right after the Remington Park Community Dinner, the couple relocated to Mustang, Oklahoma to be closer to their families. Thank you to Lenard and David Mutz for sharing the happy news.

Beth Alexander, Sharon Tandy, Sue Hegdal, Lodean Casey, and Don Casey.

In March, the Southern California Chickasaw Community Council met in Fontana, CA. While there, I had the opportunity to have my picture made with some Panola District members. Many years ago, the Legislature had made a trip out to visit that council and I was blessed with home grown lemons and avocados. Well, once again I was given some home grown lemons. They were wonderful! Those California home-grown lemons make our store bought lemons look sad. Like comparing golf balls to baseballs. There is a difference…. Thank you Lodean and Sue for sharing.

BETH ALEXANDER

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Also in March, Joan Lenox shared with the Panola Senior Center about a program called, "A period of purple crying- Don't Shake the Baby". Every year in November, the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center does a campaign designed to educate new parents on the proper way of handling new born babies and for the reduction of Shaken Baby Syndrome. New baby caps are crocheted and donated to every new baby that is born at CNMC. Joan did such a great job of sharing about the campaign and showing some of her completed caps that I volunteered to crochet at least one cap. I'll let you know when I have completed this! Years ago my mother-in-law tried to educate me on the art of crocheting. It did not stick. Maybe with time I will have gained some aptitude in this area! To learn more about this worthy program contact Lisa Eddings (580) 436-3980.

Joan Lenox

The North Texas Chickasaw Community Council recently held a Naming Ceremony. The Council did an excellent job hosting that event. Some of participants were Mr. Clay Burney, his son Michael Burney and his daughter Connie Basham. Mr. Burney shared with me that he was born in Burneyville, Oklahoma in 1925. During his youth, he was an avid hunter and would hunt the "eastern swing "quite often. (Clay shared that the "Eastern Swing" was the land that is currently known as WinStar Casino) Later, he graduated from Oklahoma University School of Pharmacy in 1950. He is a World War II veteran, retired pharmacist, and currently involved in his Church on the Visitation Committee. He enjoys working in his yard, and is a member of the Rotary Club. He reminded me of my father. Both were born in small Oklahoma towns in 1925, WWII veterans and graduated from OU in 1950. One other thing, his GF, David Burney, was involved with the establishing of Burney Institute. I invited Clay to make a day trip back to the area and we would make an "Eastern Swing" with a modern twist!

Beth Alexander and Clay Burney.

My shield is with God, Who save the upright in heart. ~Psalms 7:10

Beth Alexander

InterTribal Council comes together under rules set forth in ITC constitution

Hello Everybody,

I hope you and yours are doing well and enjoying spring. The dogwoods, here, bloomed right at the end of March and the first of April, reminding me of my friend and Chickasaw elder, the late Flora Perry.

"The dogwoods have bloomed," she would report.

Then she would advise, "Now, you can plant whatever you want in your garden."

KATIE CASE

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

I miss Flora, but she will always be with me.

In the spirit of "being with", I attended the latest Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes on April 9th and 10th. It was hosted by us, the Chickasaws, and held at our own WinStar World Casino.

Since arriving in Indian Territory, what is now Oklahoma, the Five Civilized Tribes: the Chickasaws, Choctaws, Cherokees, Creeks and Seminoles, have understood the need to stand together in support or opposition of policies of the United States government and other entities and to promote inter-tribal neutrality among other tribes.

The ITC Counsel Constitution clearly states its objectives to be ... to secure to ourselves and our descendants the rights and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws of the United States of America, and the State of Oklahoma; to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian race; to preserve Indian cultural values; to enhance and promote general educational opportunity among members of the Five Civilized Tribes; to seek equitable adjustments of tribal affairs; to secure and to preserve rights under Indian Treaties with the United States; and other-wise to promote the common welfare of the American Indians ...

Those stated objectives are needs that are still present today and are served well by the ITC in its capacity as a forum for sharing information and illuminating issues.

The first day of ITC usually consists of breakout sessions in which details of timely issues like Indian child welfare, language conservation, social services and governance are addressed.

The second day of ITC is reserved for a general session in which leaders of the Five Civilized Tribes give updates on current initiatives within their respective tribes. On the 10th, Governor Anoatubby spoke about our housing programs. Chief Batton spoke of a new clinic the Choctaws are building and Creek Principal ChiefTiger reported on a new hospital being built at Okemah, OK.

Today, the Five Civilized Tribes represent 500,000 Native Americans and the ITC works to support LIS all.

ITC's are open to citizens and attendance is beneficial for those interested in understanding current Indian issues.

Until we see each other again, I wish you and yours well. If you need me, just call.

Respectfully,.

Katie Case
(580)-421-4903

Education at the forefront of tribal investment

FINANCIAL REPORT

The tribal government caption includes the tribe's general fund and BIA trust funds. The Chickasaw Businesses include all of the businesses and operations of the Division of Commerce. Not included in the financial statements are federally or state funded programs and/or grants and the financial statements of Bank 2 and Chickasaw Nation Industries, Inc.

The growing needs of the businesses are taken into account when determining the transfers from the businesses to the general fund. It is vital to the long range mission of the Chickasaw Nation that the businesses continue to grow and diversify.

Revenues of tribal government, other than the transfer from businesses, include motor fuel settlement funds and investment income. Chickasaw Business revenues include gaming revenues net of prizes and other sales revenues from convenience stores, travel plazas, tobacco stores, other tribal businesses as well as rental and investment income.

Tribal expenditures are classified by function. General government includes the maintenance and operations of tribal property, the Chickasaw Times and Governor's and Lt. Governor's offices. Expenditures for education include education scholarships as well as the tribe's division of education. Health expenditures include eye glasses, hearing aids, prescription drugs, wellness center, community health clinics, catastrophic medical assistance and other similar programs not covered by federal programs or grants.

The businesses' expenditures are classified as to expenses associated with gaming operation of the tribe and the other businesses of the tribe.

Executive Summary of the Financial Statements of the period ending March 31, 2015

Tribal Government

Revenues and transfers from the businesses for operations and fixed assets totaled $20.66 million for the month and $90.25 million year-to-date. Expenditures were $9.62 million for the month and $66.36 million year-to-date.

Chickasaw Businesses

Revenue net of gaming prizes through March totaled $669.96 million. Net income before the transfers to the Tribal Government was $164,350,961 million year-to-date. The net income includes all revenue, including amounts reserved for business growth and expansion.

Statement of Net Assets

At March 31, 2015, the tribal government funds had $289.49 million in cash and investments. Of this amount, $22.22 million is in the BIA Trust funds. This total does not include any federal program funds.

The businesses had $227.97 million in cash and investments which is reserved for accounts payable and business operations.

As of March 31, 2015, tribal operations, excluding federal program funding, had net assets of $2.03 billion.

Chickasaw Nation
Tribal Operations
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures
For the Six Months Ended March 31, 2015

		Tribal Government	Chickasaw Businesses	Total
Revenues	$	6,953,733	669,963,249	676,916,982
Transfers from businesses to tribal government		83,291,285	(83,291,285)	-
Total funds available		90,245,017	586,671,964	676,916,982
Expenditures				
General government		3,762,089		3,762,089
Legislature		1,482,703		1,482,703
Judiciary		570,937		570,937
Education		12,201,438		12,201,438
Heritage Preservation		10,197,398		10,197,398
Health		9,878,530		9,878,530
Youth Services		1,995,532		1,995,532
Family Services		5,676,751		5,676,751
Nutrition Programs		3,472,358		3,472,358
Regulatory		5,262,364		5,262,364
Assistance Programs		11,857,038		11,857,038
Gaming expense			375,176,633	375,176,633
Other businesses' expense			130,435,655	130,435,655
Total expenditures		66,357,138	505,612,288	571,969,426
Increase in net assets		23,887,880	81,059,676	104,947,556
Beginning net assets		743,003,190	1,187,670,226	1,930,673,416
Ending net assets	$	766,891,070	1,268,729,901	2,035,620,971

Chickasaw Nation
Tribal Operations
Statement of Net Assets
March 31, 2015

		Tribal Government	Chickasaw Businesses	Total
Cash and Investments	$	289,488,259	227,969,510	517,457,769
Receivables		19,775,184	93,649,021	113,424,204
Inventory		107,594	8,127,651	8,235,245
Prepaid expenses			22,694,821	22,694,821
Other Assets			1,078,139	1,078,139
Fixed assets		460,508,476	1,028,341,859	1,488,850,335
Less payables		(2,988,443)	(113,131,099)	(116,119,541)
Net Assets	$	766,891,070	1,268,729,901	2,035,620,971

Congratulations

Katelyn Duke

Chickasaw youth Katelyn Duke, freshman at Brewer High School in Fort Worth, Texas, won a bronze medal at the Brewer High School tennis tournament on April 3. She is the daughter of Brian and Sheila (Duke) Lashley, of Fort Worth, granddaughter of Sara Duke, of Ada, Okla., great-granddaughter of Mabel Norris, and great-great granddaughter of Lula Lewis Taylor, original Chickasaw enrollee.

Jordan Brewer

On April 9, 2015 Jordan Brewer, son of Scott and Kristin Brewer, pitched his first "Perfect Game" for the 7th grade Choctaw Yellow Jackets. Choctaw run-ruled Carl Albert, 13-0. Jordan faced nine batters in three innings of work. Brewer struck out seven batters on no hits, no walks and no errors with 33 pitches.

Jordan struck out the side in the 1st inning. In the 2nd inning he struck out two batters and Ben Thomas saved the perfect game when he snagged a line drive out at first base. In the 3rd inning Jordan struck out two more and the last batter grounded out to second base.

After the game Coach Dooley asked Jordan how he did it. Jordan replied, "My breaker (that's what he calls his sinker) was falling off the table just before it got to the plate." Jordan hopes to have several more perfect games in the future. His dream is to play Division 1 baseball in college. Jordan is proud of his Chickasaw Heritage and has a Chickasaw flag/patch sewn to his baseball glove.

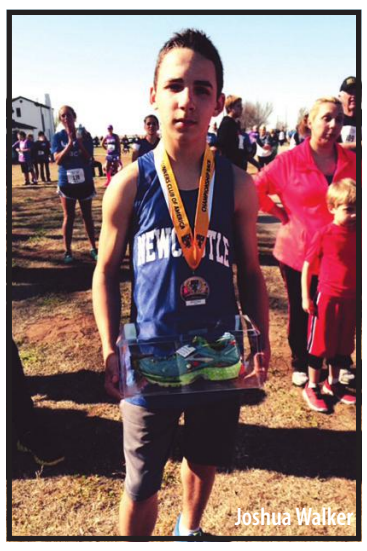
Zephaniah and Zebulon Hawkins

Zephaniah and Zebulon Hawkins have each earned their Eagle Scout. They were with a unit from Okeene, Okla.

Zephaniah is a senior at Oklahoma Baptist Academy, and Zebulon is a sophomore at Kremlim/Hillsdale near Enid, Okla. Both boys are on the academic team for their schools.

Zephaniah's future plan is to become a pediatrician. He has been accepted to East Central University beginning the fall semester. Zebulon will continue his studies at Kremlin/Hillsdale school.

They are the sons of Brad and Marjorie Hawkins, grandsons of Larry and Joann Hawkins, and Rosemary Shaw, and the great-grandsons of the late Dora Greenwood and Opal Poe Collins, full-blood Chickasaws.


Joshua Walker

Joshua Walker received a gold medal for the RRCA Male 5K State Champion (age 39 and under), another gold medal for 1st place in his age bracket (age 13-16), and a trophy for getting third place overall in the whole race. The trophy is a running shoe decorated by a Children's Miracle Child enclosed in a case. The race was the Wings To Fly Miracle Run in Fort Reno, Okla. on March 28. The proceeds went to the Oklahoma's sick and injured children by benefiting the Children's Hospital Foundation through Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. The race was also for the Road Runners Club of America State Championship.

Joshua has many goals for his future. He plans on running other distance races such as: 10K, 15K, ½ marathon, and the marathon. He hopes to earn a scholarship for cross country distance running, and plans to attend college for a criminal justice degree. He aspires to be on the Lighthorse Police Force for the Chickasaw Nation, and possibly be a game warden some day. He is also an avid outdoorsman and fisherman. He is a proud Chickasaw!

Joshua is the son of Mandy Taylor-Griffin, grandson of Elizabeth Kelly Taylor, great-grandson of Gerald Wayland Brown, and great-great-grandson of Leonard Brown.

Rustie J. Anglin

Chickasaw Citizen Rustie J. Anglin, 19, of Bixby, Okla., has been selected for a summer intern position with the National Air and Space Administration. She is the daughter of Tischa Latta and Rusty Anglin, and the granddaughter of Marje and George Tabor. She is a student at Haskell Indian Nations University and the University of Kansas. She will be working at the Goddard Space Flight Center located in Greenbelt, Maryland.

Rustie is a freshman and liberal arts major with a focus in mass communication. She has written articles for *The Indian Leader*, the newspaper of Haskell University. She was selected through a lengthy process over several other highly qualified candidates from around the United States.

Her duties this summer will include building historical profiles of NASA Tribal College & University activities. She will be writing success stories, digitizing pictures and paper files for electronic record-keeping, and uploading content to a newly developed website. The goal is to pull together a chronological record of the program to the current day.

NASA is very interested in strengthening participation of students from Tribal Colleges & Universities in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Miss Anglin will help promote these success stories through her work this summer.

Lindsey Niccole Wallace

Chickasaw citizen Lindsey Niccole Wallace is a sophomore at Dickson High School, in Dickson, Okla. She attended the Murray State College Scholastic Contests in March in Tishomingo, Okla. She placed first in figure drawing and fourth in portfolio in

her divisions for art. She was awarded FIRST place for her High School 3D Table Art submission at the Artist of the Arbuckles art competition in Sulphur, Okla.

Cindy White

Cindy White, of Stonewall, La., was inducted into the National Air Duct Cleaners (NADCA) Hall of Fame which took place at the Marriott Resort, Marco Island, Fla., on April 28.

She is a citizen of the Chickasaw Nation and has been married to Mike White for 38 years and has a son, Michael, who is also a Chickasaw and works in the family business.

She is a 1977 graduate of Louisiana Tech University. She is president of Clean Air Systems of Louisiana, Shreveport, and started the business in 1989. She is also a member of Indoor Air Quality Association, holds a Louisiana pesticide license, and certifications for Air Systems Cleaning Specialists (ASCS) and a Ventilation Systems Mold Remediator (VSMR).

Birthday

Jeffrey Jack

A VERY HAPPY Birthday for #49! Jeffrey Jack celebrated his 49th birthday on April 15. He is the son of the late LaDeana Jack, and brother of Amanda Jack, of Ada, Okla. Love from your family.

Congratulations

Kendra Pierce

LOUISVILLE, Ky. – An outstanding final season has put Oklahoma Christian shortstop Kendra Pierce among the elite in NCAA Division II softball, a fact confirmed by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association.

Miss Pierce, a senior from Oklahoma City who attended Westmoore High School, was one of 25 players selected as finalists for the inaugural Schutt Sports/NFCA Division II National Player of the Year award.

Behind the collaboration between the NFCA and the Division II Head Coaches Committee, and the generosity of Schutt Sports, the award was created to honor the outstanding athletic achievement among softball student-athletes throughout Division II.

"I am honored to be recognized in this way," Miss Pierce said. "Going into this season, I didn't have my mind on winning or being a finalist for any kind of award. This is truly an honor and I give all the credit to my teammates. I wouldn't be where I am now if it wasn't for them. They are the real finalists in my opinion."

The selection comes in the midst of what has been a memorable campaign for Miss Pierce, who twice this season has been named as the Heartland Conference's hitter of the week. She entered the week ranked fifth in Division II in batting average and will enter this weekend's series with Lubbock Christian (Texas) hitting .505 with six home runs, 36 RBIs, a slugging percentage of .811 and a .545 on-base percentage.

In addition to her batting average ranking, she entered the week 23rd in Division II in on-base percentage and 32nd in Division II in slugging percentage. She has helped the Lady Eagles to a 20-13 record so far this season, recording hitting streaks of 18 games (the third-longest in the program's history) and 12 games.

Her strong offensive numbers helped vault her onto the lists of finalists for the national honor. Her OC teammate, pitcher Shea Coats, was on the 50-woman preseason watch list but was not on the list of finalists.

"Kendra has been an instrumental part of the success we've had at Oklahoma Christian," OC coach Tom Heath said. "She has been a very strong asset to the team defensively, but it's offensively where she has shined throughout her four years at OC. Kendra has come through in so many clutch situations and has a phenomenal eye at the plate. I am extremely proud of her for being named one of the top finalists for this award. She definitely deserves it!"

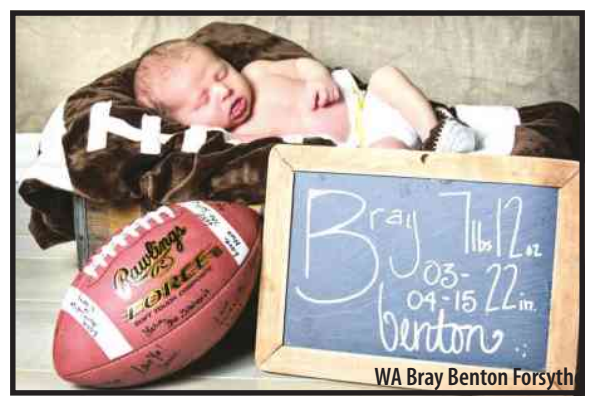
Miss Pierce was one of two Heartland Conference players among the 25 finalists, joining St. Mary's (Texas) pitcher Vianna Gutierrez Touchtone.

The top 10 finalists for the award were announced on April 30 and the top three will be announced on May 14. The award winner will be announced May 20.

Washington Warriors 4th Grade Basketball Team

The Washington Warriors 4th grade girls' basketball team, under Coach Jarrod Wells, recently won first place in the Central Oklahoma Youth Basketball Association's season ending tournament. Included on the team was Chickasaw member Hayden Hobbs (far right). Hayden is the daughter of Jonathan Hobbs, the granddaughter of John Hobbs, of Purcell, Okla., and great-granddaughter of Lenora Hobbs, also of Purcell.

Births



WA Bray Benton Forsyth

WA Bray Benton Forsythe was born March 4, 2015 in Ardmore, Okla., weighing 7 pounds 12 ounces, and measuring 22 inches.

His parents are EJ Forsythe and Lindsey Bennett, of Wilson, Okla. He is the brother of Ava Forsythe and Kamryn Eubanks. He is the grandson of Robert Bennett, of Ardmore, Okla., Wenona Taliaferro, of Lone Grove, Okla., Larry Forsythe, of Wilson, Okla., and Fernna Forsythe, of Ardmore, Okla.

His great-grandparents are Louise Taliaferro, of Lone Grove, Okla., and Lawanna Forsythe, of Wilson, Okla., the late WA Taliaferro, Lawrence Forsythe, Lomas "Lanny" Bray and Shirley Bray, and Winnie Bennett.

Sebastian Jandt Lingle

Sebastian Jandt Lingle was born in Denver, Colo. on April 9, 2015. He is the son of Brice and Nikki Lingle, grandson of Mike and Pam Lingle, Vikki Moody and Nick Ehrhart. He is the great-great-grandson of Joseph Burney, who was an original enrollee of the Chickasaw Nation.

Community News

St. Louis Community Council meets March 28

The St. Louis Community Council met on March 28, 2015 in St. Louis, Missouri. Approximately 20 Chickasaw citizens met with Chickasaw Legislators Connie Barker, Nancy Elliott, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, Scott Wood, and David Woerz to discuss programs and services that are provided to At-Large citizens. Sheilla Brashier, Director of Special Events, conducted the meeting and gave an update of current happenings within the Nation. The legislators asked to have their picture taken with Mr. Red Green, who will be 100 years old this year. To find out about the next meeting of the St. Louis Community Council, you may call (580) 332-1165.

California Council Meeting

The California Council meeting was a success, having the most in attendance yet. There were around 60 people in attendance. The big draw, of course, was the group of legislators who attended for the first time. The program was given by Angila Black, which gave a first hand report on what health benefits are available to citizens living outside of the Nation. Many questions were asked of Angila and all were answered. Some answers came from members of the audience. Bill Chandler had all the members that had been coming since the start of the group stand up, and about half a dozen stood up. What a loyal group.

Thanks to the Nation for providing the opportunity to have these meetings with outstanding speakers. We look forward to the next one.

2015 Indian State Fast Pitch Tournament July 17-19, 2015

ASA Hall of Fame and location TBD

ASA Registered Teams $250.00
Non-Registered Teams $275.00

Oklahoma ASA is offering $20 team registration but each state association will be different.

Deadline for entry: July 2, 2015. Cashier's Check, money order, or business check. NO PERSONAL CHECKS.

All entry fees, team registration, roster, and team picture must be received by July 2, all team registrations will need to be verified by ASA.

CDIB along with photo ID must be provided at registration for each participant.
ASA modified rules will be in effect.

Any legal bat may be used with the exception of Senior League bats.

ALL BATS WILL BE TESTED BEFORE TOURNAMENT PLAY.
All game balls must be purchased at the ASA Hall of Fame.
$6 each. NO EXCEPTIONS

Host Hotel: Tower Hotel, 3233 Northwest Expressway, Oklahoma City, OK 73112. Phone 405-842-6633,
http://www.towerhoteloklahomacity.com/

King bed –$79.00
Double/Double --$89.00
Full breakfast buffet included to all paying guests.

ASA Registration information can be found at
http://www.teamusa.org/usa-softball/about/contact-us
Contact: Lisa Smith-Longman 405-609-9929, llongman32@gmail.com

Accounting • Tax Preparation • Payroll
Milissa Nichols
(580) 223-2488 ~ office
(580) 504-4627 ~ mobile
Nichols Accounting Service
milissanichols@sbcglobal.net

Nichols appointed head women's basketball coach at Bacone College

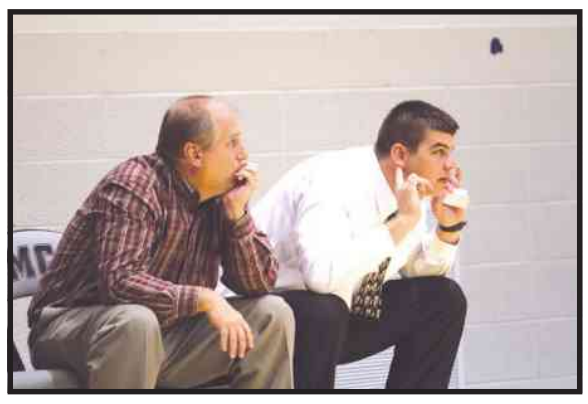
Josh Nichols

MUSKOGEE, Okla. – Bacone College Athletic Director Alan Foster announced Monday, March 23 that current men's basketball assistant Josh Nichols has been named the head women's basketball coach.

"Josh (Nichols) has served with me the last four seasons and did an outstanding job," Foster added. "As much as I hate to lose him as an assistant I'm also excited for him to be a head coach and run his own program. I know he'll do a good job, he's been a tremendous asset and I know he's going to do a lot of good things with the women's basketball program."

"I've very grateful for the opportunity to serve in this role," Nichols said. "I want to thank Coach (Alan) Foster and our associate athletic director John Pickens for allowing me to pursue this. Bacone has become home to my family and we're excited for the future."

The first-year head coach anticipates a learning curve transitioning from coaching men's basketball to women but is prepared for the task.



"Knowing what our girls can and can't do already is going to help," Nichols added. "If I walked into the gym for the first time in August that's going to put us behind. Knowing what we need recruiting wise and what I want to do from an X's & O's standpoint gives me a bit of advantage. It'll be a challenge but it's going to be worth it in the end."

"It's exciting but there will be learning curve. Its ultimately still basketball; the psychology and the X's & O's will be different but in the end its still basketball."

During the transitional period, Nichols will still help with men's basketball recruiting until a new assistant is hired.

"There's no doubt about it, he's a very good recruiter but those skills are also needed on the women's side as well, Foster added. "I feel like this is the best thing for our institution, maybe it's not the best thing for the men's basketball program but as the athletic director I have to look at the whole picture."

Nichols recently wrapped up his fourth season as the assistant men's basketball coach and head junior varsity coach; he was instrumental in the recruitment and development of numerous athletes which included three Red River All-Conference first team selections, two RRAC All-Conference second team selections and three RRAC Honorable Mention nominations.

Prior to Bacone, Nichols served four years as the assistant men's basketball coach at NAIA Division II Iowa Wesleyan; during his time at Iowa Wesleyan he coached two NAIA All-Americans while Iowa Wesleyan also made the NAIA Division II National Tournament twice in his tenure.

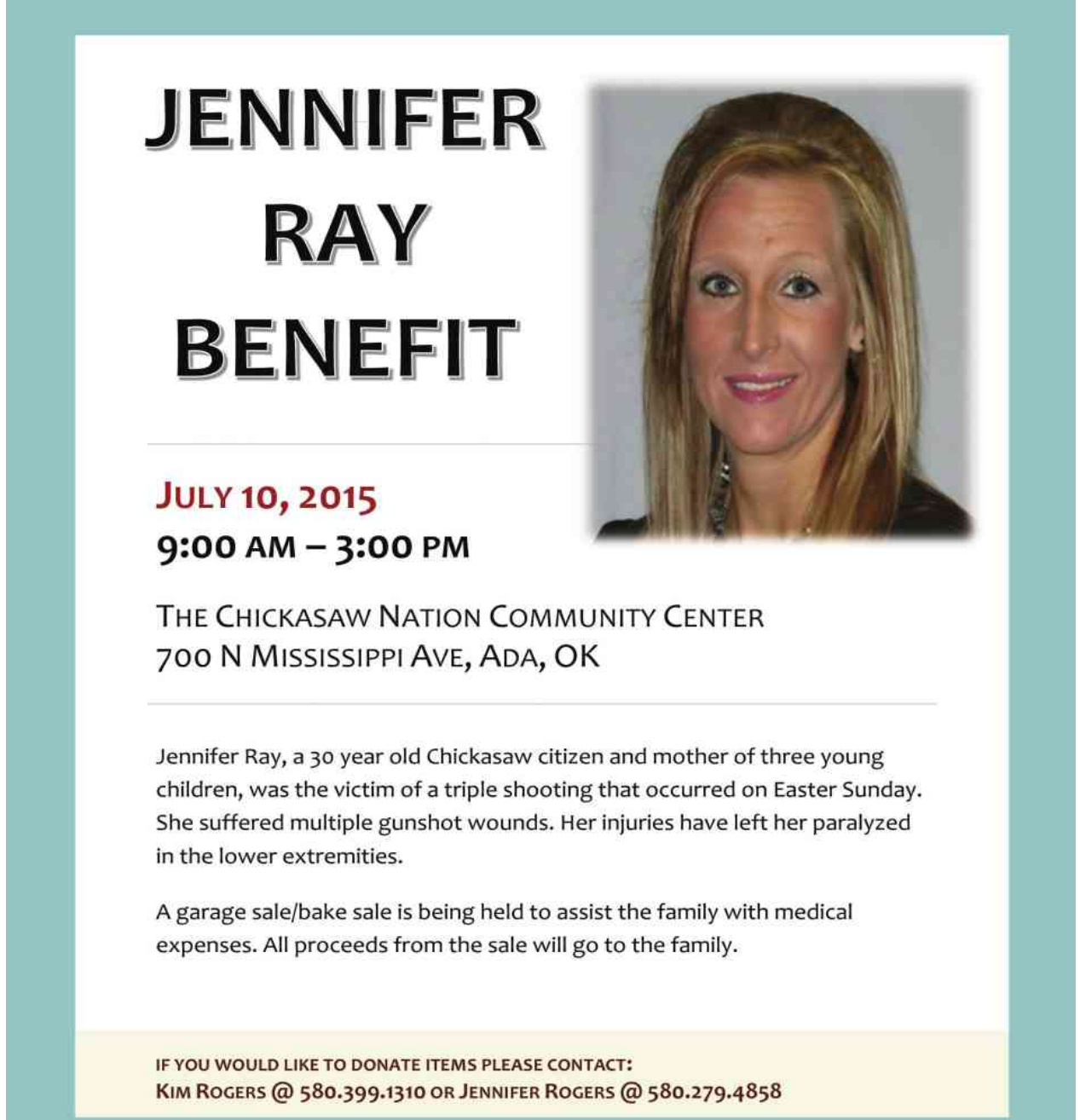
He also spent two and a half seasons as the assistant men's basketball coach at Johnson County Community College where he helped produce two Junior College All-Americans and won the regional championship in 2006.

Nichols also served as the head varsity assistant during 2002-2004 at Oklahoma Wesleyan in Bartlesville, Okla.

Additionally, he played two seasons at Northern Oklahoma College and finished his career at Oklahoma Wesleyan where he was a captain on the 2002 squad that made the NCCAA National Tournament.

Nichols will also serve as the director of basketball operations for the men's and women's programs.

- Courtesy Bacone Sports Information Department


JENNIFER
RAY
BENEFIT
JULY 10, 2015
9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
THE CHICKASAW NATION COMMUNITY CENTER
700 N MISSISSIPPI AVE, ADA, OK
Jennifer Ray, a 30 year old Chickasaw citizen and mother of three young children, was the victim of a triple shooting that occurred on Easter Sunday. She suffered multiple gunshot wounds. Her injuries have left her paralyzed in the lower extremities.
A garage sale/bake sale is being held to assist the family with medical expenses. All proceeds from the sale will go to the family.
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE ITEMS PLEASE CONTACT:
KIM ROGERS @ 580.399.1310 OR JENNIFER ROGERS @ 580.279.4858

Now Hiring
Chickasaw Nation Industries
A family of companies wholly owned by the Chickasaw Nation
Want to Work for a Company that Cares about People?
Current Hiring Needs
2015-1600: Sales Engineer/ Accounts Manager
2015-1709: Welder A
Chickasaw Energy Solutions in Marietta, OK is a SBA-certified 8(a) and HUBZone-certified Oil & Gas Equipment Manufacturer. We are seeking team players that have strong core values. If you are interested in a growing manufacturing operation that has long range vision and cares about people then we encourage you to apply.
Apply in person at
601 N Brentwood in Marietta
or online at www.chickasaw.com/careers
Call 405-253-8260 for details

Pershica contributes to young Chickasaw artists

Professional dancer awakened to Chickasaw heritage

David Pershica's 28-year career has taken him around the world, from Las Vegas to London and even Korea. His next big adventure brings him to Ada, Oklahoma.

Mr. Pershica has participated on five national tours. His history of dance includes working with greats such as Broadway tap dancer Dr. Henry le Tang, and Maureen Sweeney, Director of Education at the Philadelphia Theatre Company.

David Pershica

Mr. Pershica knew he was destined to tap dance after watching the musical *George M* starring Joel Grey.

"I want to do that, whatever that is I want to do it," he said. "It was in the summertime and my parents said, 'Well, if you still want to do it in September, then we'll let you.' Every day from then until September, I kept saying 'I want to do this,' and they enrolled me."

He started dancing at age 13, relatively late for most dancers.

"I was lucky that I went to a very good studio," he said. "I also had a lot of natural talent and worked really hard, so I moved up very quickly and from there I went to New York at the age of 19."

He learned his true gift was to be a dance instructor through Broadway great Dr. Henry le Tang. He trained with Dr. le tang for five years and learned how to be creative and choreograph dance for students.

He was later mentored by Ms. Sweeney at the Philadelphia Theatre Company. While working with her, he was honored to be a part of the Greenfield Fellowship. He and four other teachers were selected to teach dance to high school students over the course of two years. He received extensive training on how to be a teaching artist. The program introduced him to formal training through textbooks, theory and vocabulary.

Mr. Pershica was awakened to his Native American background eight years ago while performing in a show called *The Spirit of the Seventh Fire.* After the tour, he began researching his Chickasaw heritage through the Holisso Center at the Chickasaw Cultural Center.

"Within the arts and the Chickasaw Nation, our heritage, you have storytelling. You have the dance troupe will story tell," he said. "They will use vocals, and they will physically dance. That's Broadway. That's musical theatre. That's acting, singing and dancing. So this triple threat I am is genetic. It's from being Chickasaw. I was researching the dance troupe and thought, this is a precursor to musical theatre, and I was like, 'No wonder this is what I do!'"

David Pershica and his mentor Maureen Sweeney.

He started working with Chickasaw Nation Arts & Humanities after answering a Call for Artists he read in *the Chickasaw Times*. For the past two years during the Summer Arts Academy, and most recently the Spring Arts Academy, Mr. Pershica is inspiring future generations of Chickasaws through dance. His move to Ada will allow him the opportunity to continue teaching, as well as work on other dance projects.

For more information, contact Arts & Humanities at (580) 272-5520.

CONTRIBUTED BY Kristen Gill, Public Affairs.
All photos submitted.

Dancing with the Arts takes center stage at Youth Arts Month

ADA, Okla. - Dancing took center stage March 28 during Youth Arts Month at the Chickasaw Community Center in Ada. The theme for the eighth annual event was "Dancing with the Arts."

Every year, Youth Arts Month features a new theme, along with different booths and activities to keep kids busy.

"We wanted to find a way to offer the arts to the community," Arts & Humanities executive officer Laura Stewart said. "Why not have some fun and learn about the arts? Let's reach out to our other departments, too, because I bet they would have some great ideas on how to make this a success."

Youth Arts Month volunteer Sonya Johns at the Turtle magnet coloring booth March 28 at the Ada Community Center.

Departments from throughout the Chickasaw Nation participated. Groups incorporated their fields into some form of art and teaching. Creative booths and activities this year included horticulture with "angry veggies," where kids could sling shot veggies at a target. The Multimedia Department let kids recreate the Chickasaw Cultural Center's Living Village using the computer game Minecraft. Lighthorse Police conducted fingerprinting, and Nutrition Services led a breakfast pizza decorating activity.

Lighthorse Officer Dusk Monetathchi conducting fingerprinting during Youth Arts Month March 28 at the Ada Community Center.

Live entertainment was provided by the Chickasaw Children's Choir, and kids enjoyed a martial arts demonstration.

This year, KYKC radio provided live, moment-by-moment coverage of the event, with live interviews from kids talking about their favorite activities.

For more information, contact Chickasaw Nation Arts & Humanities at (580) 272-5520.

CONTRIBUTED BY Kristen Gill, Public Affairs.
Photos by Marcy Gray.

AIGC accepting Cobell Scholarship applications

ALBUQUERQUE --The American Indian Graduate Center (AIGC) has announced it is accepting Cobell Scholarship applications through June 1 for the autumn 2015 semester.

Cobell Scholars will be awarded to U.S. federally-recognized American Indian and Alaska Native students who are vocational certificate-seeking or degree-seeking students in full-time accredited non-profit institutions in the United States. Interested Native Americans must demonstrate financial need. Interested applicants can access the application and scholarship criteria at www.aigcs.org.

The U.S. Department of Interior announced in early April a $12 million transfer to the Cobell Education Scholarship Fund. The department makes quarterly transfers to the scholarship fund, which is expected to total $60 million.

Established as a result of the Cobell v. Salazar litigation, the Cobell Scholars Program fund is intended to provide financial assistance in the form of scholarships to American Indian and Alaska Native students to defray the cost of attendance at both post-secondary vocational schools and institutions of higher education.

Preference will be given to original Cobell Settlement Class members or direct descendants. All applicants are required to submit a Tribal Eligibility Certificate and Financial Needs Form available at http://www.aigcs.org/scholarships/online-application-instructions.

For more information write the American Indian Graduate Center, Inc. 3701 San Mateo NE, Suite 200, Albuquerque, NM 87110, or phone (505) 881-4584

About the American Indian Graduate Center (AIGC)

AIGC is a national organization, based in Albuquerque, NM, providing educational support through scholarships since 1969. AIGC is a national provider of scholarships for American Indian and Alaska Native graduate and undergraduate students and has awarded more than $52 million in scholarships since its inception over 45 years ago.

ALL FILMS SHOWING IN THE ANOLI' THEATER
SHOWS START AT 6:30 P.M.
CHICKASAW CULTURAL CENTER
Saturday Night Movies
MAY 9 • THE BLIND SIDE (PG-13)
MAY 16 • NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM: SECRET OF THE TOMB (PG)
MAY 23 • THE HOBBIT: THE BATTLE OF THE FIVE ARMIES (PG-13)
MAY 30 • EXODUS: GODS AND KINGS (PG-13)
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CHICKASAW COUNTRY

OKLAHOMA INDIAN LEGAL SERVICES, INC.

Free Wills & Estate Clinic

Attorneys from Oklahoma Indian Legal Services will provide **free** will preparation services for eligible tribal members who own interest in Indian trust/restricted land

Thursday, May 28, 2015
(10:00 am – 3:00 pm)

Chickasaw Nation Senior Site
401 E Oklahoma
Sulphur, OK

Call Norma for details or to make your appointment @ 800-658-1497 or 405-943-6457 (M-F, 8am-3pm)

You must have an appointment to talk to an attorney!

Group ensures fed, state governments live up to obligations

Chickasaw Nation Supreme Court Justice finishes up term with Native American Rights Fund

A Chickasaw Nation Supreme Court Justice has recently been appointed to a new Oklahoma state commission.

Chickasaw Nation Supreme Court Justice Barbara Smith has been appointed to the Oklahoma Access to Justice Commission. Justice Smith is one of seven Oklahoma jurists and attorneys selected to serve on the commission.

The Chief Justice of the Oklahoma Supreme Court, in 2014, ordered the establishment of the commission. The commission was created to develop and put in place policy initiatives to expand access to justice in civil legal matters for low-income Oklahomans.

Members of the commission are the Honorable Oklahoma Supreme Court Justice Doug Combs; Honorable Oklahoma County Judge Bernard Jones; Honorable Dewey County Judge Rick Bozarth; David Riggs, attorney with the firm Riggs, Abney Law Firm; Michael Figgins, attorney with the Legal Services Program; Osage Nation Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear; and Justice Smith.

To All:

This month I will attend my last Native American Rights Fund board of directors meeting. I am completing my six-year term on the board. It has been an incredible journey and I will miss it.

The Native American Rights Fund is a non-profit law firm that uses laws and treaties to ensure the U.S. state governments and the U.S. federal government live up to their legal obligations. The firm also provides representation and technical assistance to Indian tribes, organizations and individuals. Cases are accepted based on their potential importance in setting precedents and establishing important principles of Indian law.

NARF was founded in 1970. John Echohawk (Pawnee) was one of the co-founders and continues today at the organization's executive director.

NARF is governed by a board of directors composed of 13 Native Americans from different tribes throughout the country. Directors have a variety of expertise in Indian matters.

NARF has three offices: the main office in Boulder, Colorado; the office in Anchorage, Alaska; and the office in Washington, D.C. The organization has a staff of 20 attorneys who handle about 50 major cases at any given time, with most of the cases lasting for several – if not many – years.

NARF attorneys are some of the best attorneys in the country. Their level of expertise in Indian law is amazing.

One of these outstanding attorneys is a Chickasaw. Natalie Landreth works in the Alaska office. She has been a champion for tribal courts, tribal voting rights in state and federal elections, Indian Child Welfare Act and sustaining rights of the Alaskan tribes. She is truly one of the best attorneys I have had the pleasure to know. She has argued in the Ninth Circuit Federal District Court and in the Alaska Supreme Court several times with much success.

In 2010, NARF celebrated its 40th anniversary in the Chickasaw Nation at WinStar Hotel and Casino. People from all over the country came to the Chickasaw Nation to join in the celebration. NARF was very appreciative the Chickasaw Nation hosted the momentous occasion. The Chickasaw Nation has always been a great supporter of the Native American Rights Fund.

I was very proud to be asked to be on the board of directors. My six years have gone by too quickly. I have learned so much about what is going on throughout Indian Country and how we all fit together. Each meeting we would share how things were going in Indian Country in our state. Being a Chickasaw, I always had good news from the Chickasaw Nation. It's always good to be a Chickasaw. I wish you could have been with me on my journey.

-- JUSTICE BARBARA SMITH

Don't forget to update your tribal citizenship card when turning 18

Over 18 years old?

Don't forget to update your Chickasaw citizenship card.

If you have recently turned 18 or will be turning 18 within the next 60 days and have not yet obtained your Adult citizenship card please complete a new Tribal citizenship application and return to the Chickasaw Nation Tribal Citizenship Department. The application can be found online at www.chickasaw.net or by contacting the Tribal citizenship office at (580)436-7250.

Citizens At-Large Help Number

For information on services or help with questions, call toll-free 1-866-466-1481.

Tribal Head Start now accepting 2015-2016 applications

Chickasaw Nation Head Start Now Accepting 2015-2016 Applications

Applications for the 2015 - 2016 Chickasaw Nation Head Start program are being accepted. Locations are Ada, Ardmore, Sulphur and Tishomingo. Deadline to apply is June 1.

The Chickasaw Nation Head Start is a child development program that is available to:

- Income-eligible
- Native American and Non-Native American families with children ages three to five

Children will learn fundamental skills needed for later responsibilities in school and life. The program also provides skill-appropriate educational services for all head start students. Children with special needs and disabilities are a top priority.

Transportation services are provided for all Head Start students.

For more enrollment information or to obtain an application, contact the Chickasaw Nation Head Start Center in your area.

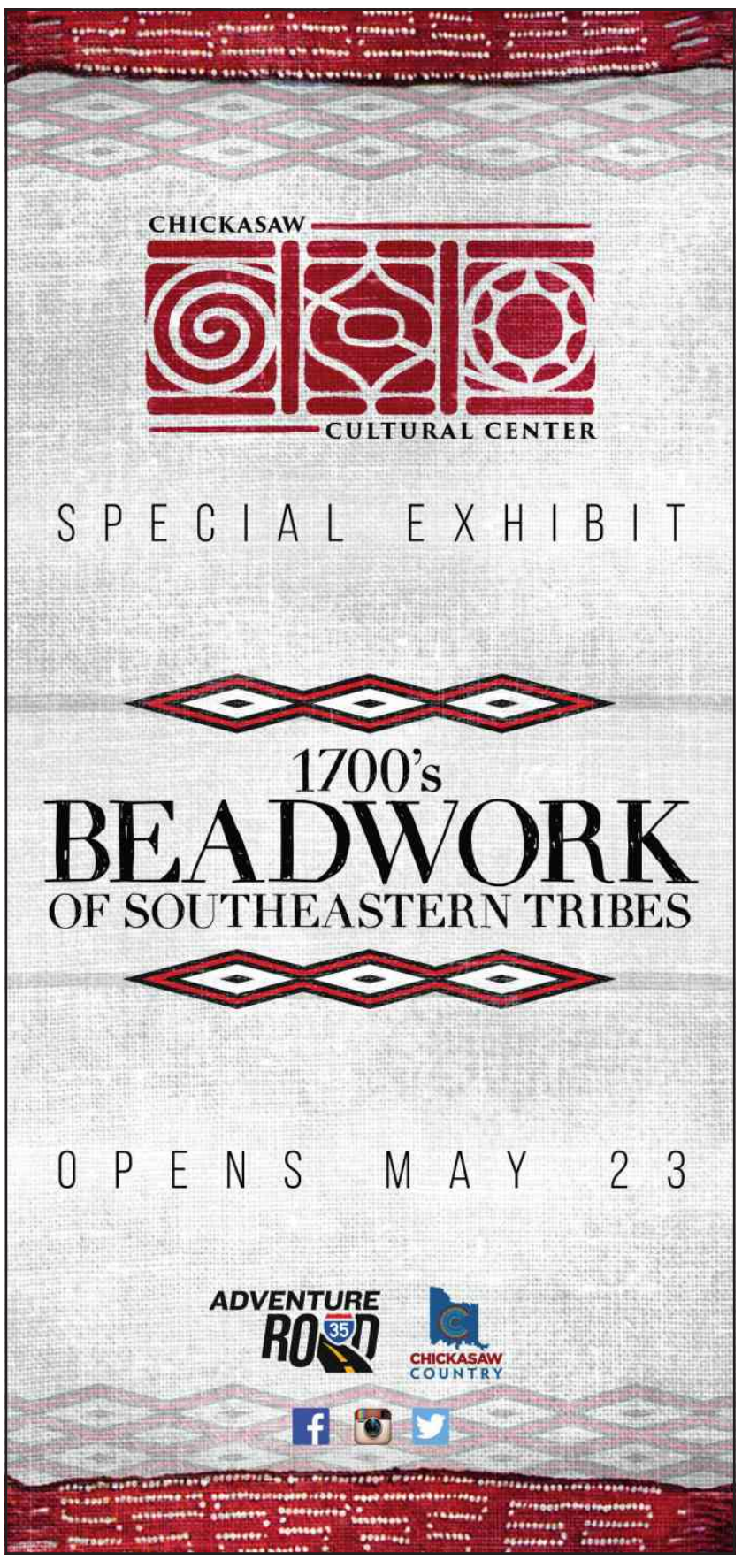
Ada Head Start (580) 310-6638
Ardmore Head Start (580) 223-6276
Sulphur Head Start (580) 622-6200
Tishomingo Head Start (580) 371-3216.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carmen Carter, Public Affairs.

Chickasaw Times app available now!

The Chickasaw Times app provides fast and easy access to news and events of the Chickasaw Nation while you are on the move!

The app is available for both Android and Apple products.



CHILDREN'S
Summer MOVIE SERIES
AT THE McSwain Theatre
JUNE
2 - 3 : THE LEGO MOVIE (PG)
9 - 10 : CINDERELLA (GENERAL AUDIENCES)
16 - 17 : BIG HERO 6 (PG)
23 - 24 : BRAVE (PG)
30 - JULY 1 : TANGLED (PG)
JULY
7 - 8 : FROZEN (PG)
14 - 15 : ROBIN HOOD (G)
21 - 22 : WRECK IT RALPH (PG)
28 - 29 : HORTON HEARS A WHO (G)
SHOW TIMES: 10 A.M. & 2 P.M.
GENERAL ADMISSION $1 | MOVIE DEAL $5: INCLUDES TICKET, POPCORN & DRINK
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FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 580-332-8108.

DISCOVER
THE CHICKASAW LANGUAGE
CHIKASHSHANOMPA'
a aa a b ch f h i ii i k l lh
m n ng o oo o p s sh t w y
THE CHICKASAW ALPHABET
The Chickasaw language, Chikashshanompa' was the primary dialect of Chickasaw people for hundreds of years. But today, fewer and fewer citizens know how to speak their native language, and the vast majority of fluent speakers are elders in the Nation.
That's why it's important to learn the language – speak it, write it, study it and share it to ensure it stays alive.
In the game at the right, see if you can match the Chickasaw word with its corresponding picture, then visit Chickasaw.tv/ChickasawTimes for the answers!
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CHICKASAW.TV @CHICKASAWTV @CHICKASAWTV
Ofi
Foshi
Koi
Soba
Draw a line from the word to the correct object above!

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee of the Whole · April 13, 2015
Present: Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Shana Hammond, Toby Perkins, Scott Wood, David Woerz, Steve Woods
Absent: Beth Alexander, Mary Jo Green, Dean McManus

Finance Committee · April 6, 2015
Present: Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Toby Perkins, Steve Woods, Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, David Woerz

Finance Committee · April 13, 2015
Present: Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Toby Perkins, Steve Woods, Linda Briggs, David Woerz
Absent: Connie Barker

Land Development Committee · April 13, 2015
Present: Steve Woods, Tim Colbert, Linda Briggs, David Woerz, Nancy Elliott
Absent: Beth Alexander, Mary Jo Green, Connie Barker

Land Development Committee · April 6, 2015
Present: Steve Woods, Tim Colbert, Linda Briggs, David Woerz, Beth Alexander, Mary Jo Green, Connie Barker

Legislative Committee · April 6, 2015
Present: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Katie Case, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Toby Perkins, Scott Wood, , Steve Woods, Tim Colbert, Linda Briggs, David Woerz
Absent: Shana Hammond, Dean McManus

Human Resources Committee · April 6, 2015
Present: Connie Barker, Katie Case, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Toby Perkins
Absent: Shana Hammond, Dean McManus

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

CHICKASAW NATION TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
Legislative Session
Legislature Building
Ada, Oklahoma
April 17, 2015

AGENDA ITEM #1 CALL MEETING TO ORDER

AGENDA ITEM #2 ROLL CALL

AGENDA ITEM #3 INVOCATION

AGENDA ITEM #4 APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 20, 2015

AGENDA ITEM #5 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM #6 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

(A) FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Toby Perkins

GR21-021 Approval of Development Budget Amendment, Tishomingo Information Center

(B) HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Dean McManus

GR32-019 Approval of Application for Funding, Bureau of Indian Affairs Tribal Cooperative Landscape Conservation Program

(C) LAND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Linda Briggs

GR32-020 Authorization for Demolition and Removal of the Miko Building at Tribal Headquarters

GR32-022 Authorization and Approval of Business Lease GS-07P-LOK17353 in Murray County, Oklahoma

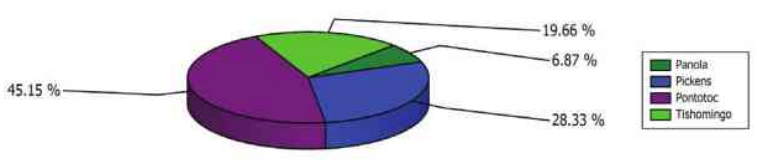
AGENDA ITEM #7 NEW BUSINESS (Comments from Citizens)

AGENDA ITEM #8 ADJOURNMENT

Count of Voters by District

District	Count
Panola	2,113
Pickens	8,715
Pontotoc	13,890
Tishomingo	6,047
Total	**30,765**

Voters by District



Incentive for Native Students
$125.00 off the pre-license course and $50.00 off the post-license course.
Contact Anne Woody when scheduling to receive discount.

MARCH 2015 LEGISLATIVE MINUTES

CHICKASAW NATION TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION
Legislature Building
Ada, Oklahoma
March 20, 2015

AGENDA ITEM #1 CALL MEETING TO ORDER
Chairperson Connie Barker called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
AGENDA ITEM #2 ROLL CALL
Members present: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Connie Barker
Staff present: Robert Cheadle, Legislative Counsel; Doretta Sellers, Recording Secretary; Harold Stick, Sergeant-At-Arms
Guests present: Douglas Haines, Oscar Gore, Todd Crawford, Mike Watson, Jeff O'Dell, Paul Emrich, Michael L. Wingo, Barbara Underwood
AGENDA ITEM #3 INVOCATION
Invocation was given by Ms. Green.
AGENDA ITEM #4 READING OF MINUTES - February 20, 2015
A motion was made by Mrs. Alexander and seconded by Ms. Elliott to approve the February 20, 2015 minutes.
Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Connie Barker - 13 yes votes
The motion to approve the minutes of February 20, 2015 carried unanimously.
AGENDA ITEM #5: UNFINISHED BUSINESS
There was no unfinished business.
AGENDA ITEM #6: REPORTS OF COMMITTEES
(A) FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Toby Perkins
General Resolution Number 32-014, Approval of Development Budget AmendmentAa-Ashaachi'
This resolution approves an amendment to the Development Budget for the Aa-Ashaachi', Project Number 20-0123-13 in the amount of $5,843,042.00.
Currently the Chickasaw Cultural Center is lacking space for storage of the vast collection of both art and artifacts the Nation owns; a collection that continues to grow. The new facility will provide a museum level intake and processing area for new artifacts. The artifacts as well as the art work will then be catalogued and stored in one of two large safe rooms, depending upon the category. This will ensure the safety of our valuable pieces of history. In addition to these spaces, the building will also house a spacious warehouse, additional office space and a viewing gallery for educational purposes.
A motion was made by Mr. Perkins and seconded by Ms. Hammond to approve GR32-014.
Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Connie Barker - 13 yes votes
The motion to approve GR32-014 carried unanimously.

General Resolution Number 32-015, Approval of Development Budget Amendment Violence Prevention Center
This resolution approves an amendment to the Development Budget for the Violence Prevention Center, Project Number 20-0135-14 in the amount of $4,915,870.00.
American Indian women are 3½ times more likely to be victims of domestic violence and sexual assault than the general population. Oklahoma ranks 3rd in the nation for women murdered by men in a single victim, single offender incident (most of which were committed by a current or former intimate partner).
The current shelter has been in existence for 5 years and often operates at full capacity. It is approximately 2,096 sq. ft. with three bedrooms, two bathrooms, a living room, kitchen and two offices. The maximum capacity of the current facility is five women or three families depending on the number of children and their ages. The need for this service is much greater than can be served in the current location.
The new facility would offer 12 sleeping rooms with bathrooms, a common living area to promote socialization, kitchen/dining area, laundry, library/computer area, as well as on-site staff to offer counseling and other services offered by the Chickasaw Nation to assist women and their children start a new life.
A motion was made by Mr. Perkins and seconded by Ms. Elliott to approve GR32-015.
Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Connie Barker - 13 yes votes
The motion to approve GR32-015 carried unanimously.

General Resolution Number 32-016, Approval of Development Budget Amendment
Women's Recovery Center
This resolution approves an amendment to the Development Budget for the Women's Recovery Center, Project Number 20-0128-14 in the amount of $5,616,960.00.
American Indian women ages 18 and older have a rate of drug/alcohol abuse or dependency three times higher than other racial or ethnic groups. American Indian women in substance abuse treatment report high incidences of physical and sexual abuse. The current treatment facility, Healthy Lifestyles on Arlington, has both genders and limited capacity for gender specific services. This creates significant barriers to caring adequately for women and eliminates the ability to care for children. The new facility, to be located on the Medical Center campus, will provide a safe and more secluded environment for women and their children to be cared for through the recovery process.
The facility will provide patients with sleeping rooms and bathrooms, common living area for socialization, kitchen and dining area, laundry facilities and also a computer area. The center will have an exam room and multiple counseling rooms to provide patients with the treatment they seek.
As the Chickasaw Nation continues providing programs and services that promote wellness and encourages healthy family functioning, focusing efforts on the treatment of substance abuse will positively strengthen the citizens of the Chickasaw Nation, other American Indians and the overall community.
A motion was made by Mrs. McManus and seconded by Ms. Elliott to approve GR32-016.
Mrs. Alexander stated she was in hopes individuals would be able to spend enough time in the program to see a change and make an impact in their lives. She also stated she would like more information on the cost of staffing not only on this facility but the other facilities that requested Development Budget Amendments over the past two months.
Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Connie Barker - 13 yes votes
The motion to approve GR32-016 carried unanimously.
Mr. Perkins concluded his report.

(B) LAND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Linda Briggs
General Resolution Number 32-017, To Amend General Resolution Number 32-003
(To Include a Corrected Property Description for the Authorization for Acquisition of Real Property in Stephens County)
This resolution amends General Resolution 32-003 for the purpose of specifically and correctly identifying the complete legal description. This property is an addition to the Chickasaw Nation Chisholm Trail Casino property.
A motion was made by Ms. Briggs and seconded by Ms. Green to approve GR32-017.
Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Connie Barker - 13 yes votes
The motion to approve GR32-017 carried unanimously.

General Resolution Number 32-018, Repeal and Replace General Resolution 31-013
Approving Water Pipeline Easement in Pittsburg County
This resolution repeals and replaces GR31-013 to reaffirm approval of the easement and correctly describe a water pipeline easement granted to the City of McAlester on jointly owned tribal trust land in Pittsburg County, State of Oklahoma. This correction is at the request of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Chickasaw Agency. The property location is the Talawanda Lake #2, Pittsburg County, Choctaw Nation for a potable water main pipeline (corrected legal description).
A motion was made by Ms. Briggs and seconded by Ms. Hammond to approve GR32-018.
Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Connie Barker - 13 yes votes
The motion to approve GR32-018 carried unanimously.
Ms. Briggs concluded her report.
AGENDA ITEM #7 NEW BUSINESS (Comments from Citizens)
There was no new business to discuss.
Mrs. Alexander announced, in October, the hospital promotes a program called "Don't Shake the Baby" to educate and raise awareness of Shaken Baby Syndrome. In this endeavor they give crochet baby hats to the newborns. She encouraged anyone that wants to be involved to help crochet baby hats for this project to do so.
Mr. Mike Watson asked the Legislature to increase the eye care program to $500 for the children, and to revisit the Atoka Agreement.
Chairperson Barker announced the CNI Stakeholders Meeting is scheduled for Monday, at 6:00 p.m., at the Ada Community Center.
AGENDA ITEM #8 ADJOURNMENT
The Legislative Session adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Elliott, Secretary - Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislature
Prepared by: Doretta Sellers, Recording Secretary - Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislature

MARCH 2015 RESOLUTIONS

CHICKASAW TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
General Resolution Number 32-019
Approval of Application for Funding
Bureau of Indian Affairs Tribal Cooperative Landscape Conservation Program

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article VII, Sections 4 and 7 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature shall enact rules and regulations pertaining to the Chickasaw Nation, and shall make decisions pertaining to the acquisition, leasing, disposition and management of real property, subject to federal law, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article XI, Section 1 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Governor shall perform all duties appertaining to the office of Chief Executive. He shall sign official papers on behalf of the Nation, and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Interior, through the Bureau of Indian Affairs, has announced availability of funding to assist tribes in addressing climate adaptation planning, and

WHEREAS, the Chickasaw Nation has developed an application for submission under this program which addresses the Chickasaw Nation's need to increase its capacity to plan for and reduce vulnerability to drought like conditions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature hereby approves of the Chickasaw Nation's application to the Bureau of Indian Affairs to seek funding to develop a strategic plan to conduct a drought vulnerability assessment of the Chickasaw Nation and provide drought vulnerability assessment trainings to tribal program leaders.

Executed in regular session of the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature, meeting at Ada, Oklahoma, on April 17, 2015 by a vote of 13 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

CHICKASAW TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
General Resolution Number 32-019
Approval of Application for Funding
Bureau of Indian Affairs Tribal Cooperative Landscape Conservation Program

Explanation: This resolution approves the Chickasaw Nation's application to the Bureau of Indian Affairs for funding to develop a strategic plan for a tribal drought vulnerability assessment and provide drought vulnerability assessment trainings to tribal program leaders. This project will increase the tribe's capacity to plan for and reduce vulnerability to drought like conditions.

Presented by: Human Resources Committee

CHICKASAW TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
General Resolution Number 32-020
Authorization for Demolition and Removal
of the Miko Building at Tribal Headquarters

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article VII, Sections 4 and 7 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature shall enact rules and regulations pertaining to the Chickasaw Nation, and shall make decisions pertaining to the acquisition, leasing, disposition and management of real property, subject to federal law, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article XI, Section 1 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Governor shall perform all duties appertaining to the office of Chief Executive. He shall sign official papers on behalf of the Nation, and

WHEREAS, the Land Development Committee recommends the demolition and removal of the Miko Building located in Ada at Tribal Headquarters in Pontotoc County, Oklahoma, and

WHEREAS, the building was constructed in 1983 and the condition of the building is such that the below grade portion leaks and produces mold in such quantities it makes the building uninhabitable and presents a safety risk to Chickasaw employees and the Chickasaw citizens served.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Chickasaw Tribal Legislature hereby authorizes and approves the demolition and removal of the Miko Building at a cost of $225,000.00.

Executed in regular session of the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature, meeting at Ada, Oklahoma, on April 17, 2015, by a vote of 13 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

CHICKASAW TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
General Resolution Number 32-020
Authorization for Demolition and Removal
of the Miko Building at Tribal Headquarters

Explanation: This Resolution authorizes and approves the demolition and removal of the Miko Building at a cost of $225,000.00. The condition of the building is such that the below grade portion leaks and produces mold in such quantities it makes the building uninhabitable and presents a safety risk to Chickasaw employees and the Chickasaw citizens served.

Property Location: Headquarters Campus, Ada, Pontotoc County, Oklahoma
Use: None (uninhabitable building)
Presented by: Land Development Committee

CHICKASAW TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
General Resolution Number 32-021
Approval of Development Budget Amendment
Tishomingo Information Center

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article VII, Sections 4 and 7 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature shall enact rules and regulations pertaining to the Chickasaw Nation, and shall make decisions pertaining to the acquisition, leasing, disposition and management of real property, subject to federal law, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article XI, Section 1 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Governor shall perform all duties appertaining to the office of Chief Executive. He shall sign official papers on behalf of the Nation, and

WHEREAS, Section 10-201.4 of the Chickasaw Nation Code requires projects intended to develop tribal real property to be contained in a Development Budget, apart and separate from the Consolidated Governmental Budget, and

WHEREAS, the Governor has submitted the proposed revision to the Development Budget for the listed project in Exhibit A, and

WHEREAS, the requirements of Subsection 18-100.6(B) have been statutorily met by the Governor's submission of this revision to the Development Budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature hereby approves the revision to the Development Budget for the Tishomingo Information Center, Project Number 20-0132-14 in the amount of $6,530,534.00.

Executed in regular session of the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature, meeting at Ada, Oklahoma, on April 17, 2015, by a vote of 13 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

CHICKASAW TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
General Resolution Number 32-021
Approval of Development Budget Amendment
Tishomingo Information Center

Explanation: This resolution approves the amendment to the Development Budget for the Tishomingo Information Center, Project Number 20-0132-14, in the amount of $6,530,534.00

The addition of a 10,765 sq. ft. Information Center in Tishomingo will allow the Chickasaw Nation to better serve its citizens and guests by providing a more enjoyable, enlightened experience through the various sources of information guests can obtain there. The building will provide a large gathering area, restrooms, information sources for tour bus groups and individuals alike and office space for the Division of Tourism, Department of History and Culture, and Office of Special Events, as well as the Johnston County Historical Society and the Tishomingo Chamber of Commerce.

Presented By: Finance Committee

CHICKASAW TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
General Resolution Number 32-022
Authorization and Approval of Business Lease GS-07P-LOK17353 in
Murray County, Oklahoma

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article VII, Sections 4 and 7 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature shall enact rules and regulations pertaining to the Chickasaw Nation, and shall make decisions pertaining to the acquisition, leasing, disposition and management of real property, subject to federal law, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article XI, Section 1 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Governor shall perform all duties appertaining to the office of Chief Executive. He shall sign official papers on behalf of the Nation, and

WHEREAS, the Chickasaw Nation has the opportunity to work cooperatively with the National Park Service, and

WHEREAS, The Chickasaw Nation would benefit from the leasing of office space located in the Sulphur Visitor Center, 901 West 1st St. Sulphur, Oklahoma, to the NPS, and

WHEREAS, The Government Service Agency has requested a lease proposal, GS-07P-LOK17353, for the National Park Service, and

WHEREAS, the lease is for a firm five (5) year term with a five (5) year renewable lease of which the Chickasaw Nation will receive twenty six thousand, seven hundred fifty dollars ($26,750.00) per annum.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature hereby authorizes and approves the proposed Business Lease GS-07P-LOK17353 to the Government Service Agency for the National Park Service located in Murray County, Oklahoma.

Executed in regular session of the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature, meeting at Ada, Oklahoma, on April 17, 2015, by a vote of 13 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

CHICKASAW TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
General Resolution Number 32-022
Authorization and Approval of Business Lease GS-07P-LOK17353 in
Murray County, Oklahoma

Explanation: This resolution approves the Business Lease GS-07P-LOK17353 to the Government Service Agency, 819 Taylor Street, Room 11A01, Fort Worth, Texas, 76102 for the purposes of relocating the National Park Service to the Sulphur Visitor Center. The term of the lease is a firm five (5) year term, and an additional five (5) year extension subsequent to the initial five (5) year term, for which the Chickasaw Nation will receive twenty six thousand, seven hundred and fifty dollars ($26,750.00) per annum. The space being offered for National Park Service occupancy is the first floor location of the Sulphur Visitor Center.

Property Location: Murray County, State of Oklahoma within the Chickasaw Nation boundaries

Emergency Legislation

Presented By: Land Development Committee

ELECTION NOTICE

NOTICE

The election office is preparing for the 2015 Tribal Elections. We must have a correct mailing address on file for all qualified Chickasaw Voters to ensure you receive a ballot or other tribal mail-outs.

If you have moved, or if you are not sure we have your updated address, please contact the Election Office by calling (580) 310-6411 or 1-888-661-0137.

You may also complete an address change form at www.Chickasaw.net.

ELECTION SCHEDULE

THE CHICKASAW NATION TRIBAL ELECTION
2015 PRIMARY ELECTION SCHEDULE

June 1-3:
Candidate filing period (8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at the Election Secretary's office)

June 5:
Challenge to Candidacy ends at 5 p.m.

June 8:
Drawing for position on the ballot (1:30 p.m. at the Election Secretary's office) - Candidates may pick up print-outs & CD's.

June 8:
Last day to submit photo & biography to "Chickasaw Times" (by 4:00 pm) - Press release for candidates (news/media)

June 29:
Ballots mailed to voters who reside out of the contiguous 48 states

July 6:
Voter registration closes.

July 7:
After 12 p.m. candidates may pick up updated printouts & CD's.

July 9:
Ballots mailed to ALL qualified voters.

July 23:
Last day to appoint a watcher.

July 28:
2015 Primary Election (last day to return ballots; no later than 10:30 a.m.) - Ballot tabulation begins @ 11 a.m.
Unofficial results posted immediately. Press Release made to public.

July 28:
Voter registration re-opens, if no run-off election.

July 31:
Recount period ends.

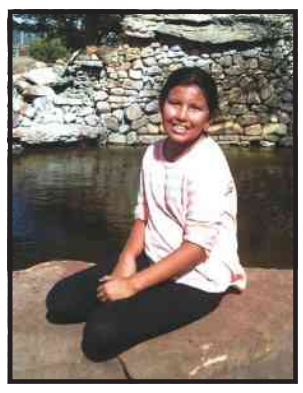
October 1:
Oath of Office Ceremony (11:00 a.m.)

March 2015 Chickasaw Nation Outstanding Achievement Award Recipients

Gabrielle Cleveland

Gabrielle Cleveland, 11, daughter of Regna and Tim Overbey, is a recipient of the 2015 Outstanding Academic Achievement Award.

Gabrielle is in the fifth grade at



Gabrielle Cleveland

Varnum Elementary in Seminole, Oklahoma. She was nominated by her fifth-grade teacher, Steven Rooker.

"Gabrielle is a hard working student. She is always trying to find ways to grow in education. She has positive attitude and great studying habits. She is an outstanding student."

Gabrielle's hobbies include playing softball, basketball and making bracelets.

"My favorite subject in school is math and science. My hobbies are playing sports, making bracelets and painting. I also like other crafts as well. I have participated in the Varnum 4H Club and has won the Citizenship Award. I am also on a competitive softball team. We travel all over the state, Alabama and Arkansas.

Gabrielle's future plan is to attend the University of Texas and play softball for the Longhorns. She would also like to become a physical therapist.

Jaynee Bell

Jaynee Bell, 17, daughter of Denise and Brett Bell, is a recipient of the Outstanding Achievement in sports.

Jaynee is a junior Wastlake High School in Austin, Texas. She

Jaynee Bell

was nominated by her trainer and coach at Coraggio Equestrian, Paige Erwin.

"Jaynee is responsible and goal orientated. She cares for her fellow riders and animals. She is professional and courteous when dealing with difficult situations. I believe that the skills that Jaynee demonstrates her will be extremely valuable as she continues to grow. I'm confident that Jaynee will be successdul at whatever she decides to do and will always draw upon what she has learned at Coraggio."

Jaynee's Hobbies include riding, training, grooming the horses and helping the trainer.

"I have wanted to ride for as long as I can remember. My parents made me try other sports, because of the responsibility and time commitment involved in riding. However, my passion did not change, it stayed with riding. My mother found a trainer (training horse) when I was in first grade. I started to ride my fourth grade year. I worked really hard in school and spent all of my free time working at the barn with Paige Erwin. She taught me how to overcome my fears, overcome challenges and responsibility. Working with horses is a dream for most people, but I have made it a reality."

Jaynee's future plan is to become a horse trainer and own a horse stable.

Tucker Abney

Tucker Abney, 11, son of Teddy and Tammy Abney, is the recipient of the 2015 Outstanding Citizenship Achievement Award.

Tucker is in the fifth grade at Latta Elementary School in Ada, Oklahoma. He was nominated by his fifth grade teacher, Darci Reeves.

"Tucker excels in his attitude and helpfulness. Tucker can be found any day offering assistance to teachers, helping a classmate

Tucker Abney

or lending a smile to someone in need. I am happy to nominate Tucker for the March Outstanding Students."

Tucker's Hobbies include hunting, fishing and sports.

"Math is my favorite subject, because I'm good at it. I like hunting, fishing and sports. My family and I enjoy hunting, fishing and sports."

Tucker's future plans include to be a game warden and a professional fisherman.

Kevin Woodruff

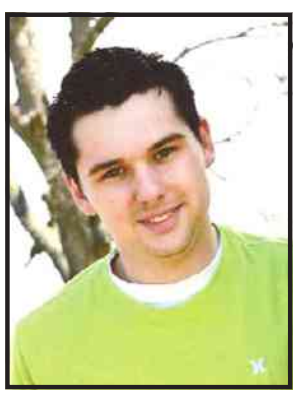
Kevin Woodruff, 18, son of James and Sharon Hirkman, is a recipient of the 2015 Business Achievement Award.

Kevin is a junior Latta High School in Ada, Oklahoma. He was nominated by his teacher, Stacy Oakley.

"Kevin is a DECA member who puts his talents to work in business and entrepreneurship. He won the ECU Pitch Competition in business development of a coffee shop. He also maintains a part-time job."

Kevin's hobbies include hunting, fishing and driving.

"I go to Latta High School and live in Stratford. I am involved with DECA. I maintain a part-



Kevin Woodruff

time job at Cow Kickers Country Kitchen in Stratford. I love being Chickasaw, because of the amazing organizations and the things they do for our people."

Kevin future plans is to pursue a college degree in criminal justice.

Spring Music Concert features young Chickasaws; Anoli winners

During the Spring Music Concert, Chickasaw Nation Arts & Humanities announced the winners of the Anoli Creative Writing Contest.

2015 ANOLI Creative Writer Winners

Division 1 (Grade 6-8) Poetry Winner

Kyla Davidson "What is Individuality?"

Division 2 (Grade 9-12) Short Story Winner

James Gillet "Facing Adversity: A Chickasaw History to the Latter-Nineteenth Century"

Division 2 (Grade 9-12) Poetry Winner

Sophia Starnes "Solar System Silence"

James Gillet "Shilombish Ishto"

Erica Hanna "Who Am I?"

Division 2 (Grade 9-12) Essay Winner

1st place-Brooklyn Gibney "Individuality=uniqueness"

2nd place-Caroline Keel "Individuality: As an Indian, A Chickasaw, and Myself"

3rd place-James Gillet "The Clouds of Change"

Division 3 (Young Adult to 24) Poetry Winner

1st place-Lisa Leftwich "The Word Thief"

2nd place-Ashley Vance "Woman Statue"

3rd place-Chelsea Whittingham "I Am Who I Am"

Division 3 (Young Adult to 24) Short Story Winner

1st place-Jennifer McCreary "The Toy Soldier"

2nd place-Lisa Leftwich "Scars"

3rd place-Ashley Vance "(Untitled) Seeing the Young Boy Laid Out"

The Chickasaw Children's Choir singing at the Spring Music Concert, April 11, at the McSwain Theatre. The choir performed traditional and modern. Left to right: LaKala Orphan, Trey Wilson, Lanie Clonch, Hallie Estep, Ragan Lay and Ziktcana Roberts.

The School of Guitar students performing Apache during the Spring Music Concert. Left to right: Cade Skinner , Colton Skinner, Caleb Barrick, Zack Mackey and Dale Shakleford.

Imanoli Writers Conference and Forum June 2 in Ada

Chickasaw Nation Arts & Humanities will host the Imanoli Writers Conference and Forum June 2 in Ada. The conference will be hosted in the Arts & Humanities building on Broadway.

Professionals from different fields of writing will share their knowledge and provide information about the different aspects of the writing process and writing styles for writers looking to improve their skills.

Leann Howe, a professor of American Indian Studies and English at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, will be the keynote speaker. Dr. Howe writes fiction, poetry, screenplays, creative non-fiction and plays primarily dealing with American Indian experiences.

In 2012 Dr. Howe, a Choctaw citizen, was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Native Writers' Circle of the Americas. Her first novel, Shell Shaker, received an American Book Award in 2002 from the Before Columbus Foundation. She also received a USA Ford Fellowship of $50,000 to continue her research and write Memoir of a Choctaw Indian in the Arab Revolt, 1017.

In 2011, Dr. Howe was awarded the Tulsa Library Trust Award for her work as an American Indian writer.

A 2010-2011 William J. Fulbright Scholar, Dr. Howe lived in Amman, Jordan, to research her forthcoming novel, set in Bilaad ash Sham, and Allen, Oklahoma.

Her novel, Miko Kings: An Indian Baseball Story, was Hampton University's Read-In-Selection for 2009-2010.

Sarah Sawyer is an award-winning Christian author and Choctaw storyteller of traditional and fictional tales based on the lives of her people. She will speak on publishing and ebooks. The Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian has honored her as a literary artist through its Artist Leadership Program for her work in preserving Trail of Tears stories.

In 2015, First Peoples Fund awarded Ms. Sawyer an Artist in Business Leadership Fellowship. She writes from her hometown in East Texas, partnering with her mother, Lynda Kay Sawyer, and continuing her research for future novels.

Kelly Byars will speak on screenwriting. Mr. Byars, Chickasaw and Choctaw, graduated in 1985 from the Institute of American Indian Arts with a degree in Three-Dimensional Art. He also attended the University of New Mexico where he received a bachelor's degree in media arts in 2004, and a master's degree in language, literacy and sociocultural studies in 2009.

Mr. Byars teaches film workshops for local organizations and in Native communities with his production company REEL INDIAN PICTURES. He also continues to work as an actor in local community theatre, most recently completing a production at the Hispanic Cultural Center and a publicity campaign for the Albuquerque Journal.

For more information, contact Arts & Humanities at (580) 272-5520.

American Red Cross Oklahoma Spirit Award presented to the Chickasaw Nation

The Chickasaw Nation on April 9 received the Oklahoma Spirit Award from the American Red Cross. The award recognizes those who strive to make Oklahoma a better place for everyone to live.

Event organizers also recognized early leaders of the Five Civilized Tribes. In 1906 the leaders of the tribes were some of the first to assist citizens in northeast Oklahoma where they began what was known then as the Indian Territory Branch Red Cross.

Current leaders of the Five Tribes were also recognized for their continuing efforts to support those in need.

55th Annual Meeting, Festival Sept. 26 through Oct. 3

TISHOMINGO, Okla. - Chickasaws from around the world will return home to celebrate the 2015 Chickasaw Nation Annual Meeting and Festival, Sept. 26 through Oct. 3 in Tishomingo.

This year marks the 55th Annual Meeting of the Chickasaw Nation and the 27th Chickasaw Festival.

Activities begin Saturday, Sept. 26, and culminate Saturday, Oct. 3.

Numerous events, including the Chickasaw Princess Pageant, Cultural Evening, the Chickasaw Annual Meeting and Junior Olympics are planned for the weeklong homecoming that celebrates Chickasaw heritage, culture, spirit and traditions.

For more information call (580) 371-2040 or 1 (800) 593-3356.

Together we can prevent diabetes!
Eagle Adventure
Mr. Eagle's Nest
Chukma!
Mr. Eagle's Nest is a place to share tips for keeping your body strong and healthy.
Tune in to KCNP 89.5 FM Wednesdays around 7:35 am and 4:35 pm to hear more about Mr. Eagle and his friends.
Water is a great drink choice everyday!
Water has kept our bodies healthy for generations. The Chickasaw word for water is oka'. Choose water at breakfast, lunch, dinner and snack time.
Try adding fresh lemon, lime or orange wedges to your water for added flavor. Reach for a glass of water when you are thirsty. Your body will thank you!
Here's a funny joke to share with your friends:
Why did the lemon stop halfway across the road?
It ran out of juice!
We want to hear what's happening in your nest!
Visit www.eagleadventure.com or call 580-272-5596 to share what fruit or vegetable snacks you enjoy or tell us your favorite recipe!

Oklahoma wilderness is outdoor classroom for Jr. Native Explorers

More than 20 budding scientists, ages 6-18, recently made Oklahoma's rugged terrain their classroom. Members of the Jr. Native Explorers traveled deep into the backcountry of Murray County to prospect for fossils.

The up-and-coming scientists worked with Dr. Kent Smith of the OSU-Center for Health Sciences, as well as other professional mentors from the Sam Noble Museum of Natural History, during the daylong expedition. Educators from the Chickasaw Nation Department of Education were also present.

The trip was the first of quarterly outings designed to spark in young Native Americans the desire to pursue degrees in earth and natural sciences, as well as careers in the medical field.

"We use the natural environment as our classrooms to inspire students," Dr. Smith said. "Working side by side in the field with professional mentors and others who enjoy science as much as they do, the children who are here today are networking. These networks will last them their entire academic career."

The students were transported from Ada and Ardmore to White Mound, a few miles west of Nebo, Okla., for the dig. The site was selected for its terrain features, its abundance of easily attainable fossils and the ability for fossil hunters to keep what they collect.

Jonah Self, 12, of Caddo, learns the ins-and-outs of invertebrates from professional mentor Dr. Nick Czaplewski of the Sam Noble Museum of Natural History. According to Jonah, the trip was fun because he was able to "see things thousands of years old for the first time."

"Looking through the dirt for fossils is fun," said seven-year-old Jeremiah White of Sulphur. "I am going to take the fossils home that I found and put them on my shelf in my room like my brother. He has some (fossils), but they're not real like these."

While at White Mound, Jr. Native Explorers were introduced to equipment and procedures scientists use while working in the field. These included demonstrations of GPS units, geological maps showing the surface of the state and hand tools used by fossil hunters.

Students were also issued data logs that will be kept throughout the year to document their findings and observations during quarterly meetings.

According to Education Service Manager Kresta Lofton, the Jr. Native Explorers use the logs to record information about their activities and observations.

"At the end of the year, we will review what we have learned using the logs and will be able to build on that for the next coming year," Ms. Lofton said.

According to Dr. Smith, the partnership with the Chickasaw Nation is a successful one. Developed three years ago, the Jr. Native American Explorers retention rate among Chickasaw students is 80 to 85 percent.

"The Native Explorers program is the most satisfying thing I have done in my career," Dr. Smith said. "These are the children that will one day become our leaders."

Nizhoni Gee-Hicks, 9, of Ada, uses an impromptu tool found at the dig site to clear debris from a large stone while prospecting for fossils.

About Chickasaw Native Explorers

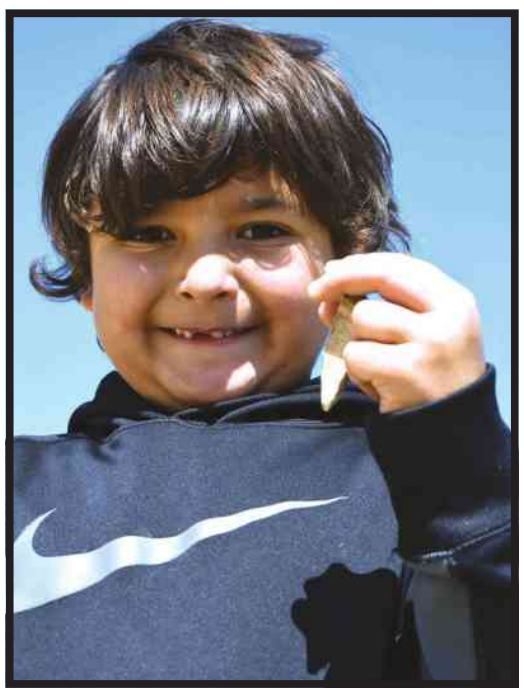
The Chickasaw Nation Jr. Native Explorers is an innovative, hands-on, mentor-led education program designed to increase the number of Native American students who pursue degrees in science and medicine. Students are exposed to science by working with professional scientists, physicians, educators and peers.

Jr. Native American Explorers have opportunities to participate in unique learning experiences, such as archeological expeditions, anatomy explorations, natural resources and preservation initiatives. Students learn about the various career opportunities and internships available within these fields.

The program is open for Chickasaw students ages 6 to 18 who reside in the Ada and Ardmore areas.

For more information, Contact Kresta Lofton at 580-421-7711.

CONTRIBUTED BY KC Cole, Public Affairs.



Jeremiah White, 7, of Sulphur, is happy to show one of the fossils he collected while attending the Jr. Native Explorers expedition to White Mounds, located deep in the back country of Murray County, Oklahoma.

More than 20 members of the Jr. Native Explorer gathered to explore for fossils in Murray County. The dig was the first of four outings designed to inspire Native American youth to study natural sciences and enter careers in the medical field.

Inaugural Tobachi Kanchi Art Market at Tishomingo a success!

TISHOMINGO, Okla. - The inaugural Tobachi Kanchi Art Market took place on the grounds of the Chickasaw National Capitol and Council House Museum in Tishomingo April 11. The Art market featured the crafts of 18 Southeastern and Woodlands tribes. Families gathered and for food, fun and stickball.

Kids enjoyed the sidewalk chalk competition winning in several categories.

Art Market Sidewalk Chalk Contest Winners
4-6 year olds
1st Place: Caileigh Lindsey
2nd Place: Ian Reynolds
3rd Place: Kambree Cagle-Reynolds- 6 years

7-9 year olds
1st Place: Gawain Lindsey
2nd Place: Josie King
3rd Place: Laney Brown

10-12 year olds
1st place- Braydon Prince- 10 years
2nd place- Logan Prince- 11 years.

13-16 year olds
1st Place: Starla Wood- 15 years
2nd Place: Malia Levario- 16 years
3rd Place: Veronica VanArsdale- 14 years

Ashley Wallace and Rita Hart joined other artists for the Tobachi Kanchi Art Market in Tishomingo April 11.

During the Art Market first Chikasha Himitta' Cultural Council (Chickasaw Youth Cultural Council) meeting was attended by members who set their curriculum for the year and participated in a language activity as well as made moccasins and played stickball. The next scheduled meeting will take place on May 2 during Chikasha Ittafama (Chickasaw Reunion) at Kullihoma.

CONTRIBUTED BY Kristen Gill, Public Affairs.

Chikasha Himitta' Cultural Council members met for the first time to participate in cultural activities and discuss curriculum.

Inaugural Art Market sidewalk chalk contest winners, front row, from left, Cagle-Reynolds, Ian Reynolds, Caileigh Lindsey, second row, Gawain Lindse, Josie King, Laney Brown, Braydon Prince, Logan Prince, third row, Veronica VanArsdale, Malia Levario, Starla Wood.

Miss Oklahoma visit

Gov. Bill Anoatubby with Miss Oklahoma 2014 Alex Eppler, center, and Joei Whisenant, Miss Oklahoma's Outstanding Teen 2014, during the ladies' recent visit to tribal headquarters in Ada. Miss Oklahoma's platform is "Dare 2 Care: Random Acts of Kindness." During her reign she has traveled to schools statewide talking with students about the importance of kindness.
Photo by Jacquelyn Sparks.

Chickasaw students do well at Native American Language Fair

Each year, students from all over Oklahoma and the United States gather to demonstrate their Native American language through traditional and modern song, spoken language, film and video, book and literary and essay on April 6 & 7, more than 20 languages are judged by elders and native language instructors

In the 13th year, the Oklahoma Native American Language Fair, set a record for both the fair and the museum.

Special invited guest, Amanda Cobb-Greetham, Chickasaw citizen and Director of Native American Language Studies at the University of Oklahoma, spoke on the importance of Native American language at the opening ceremony.

Chickasaw students placed in a variety of categories.

Performances:

1st place-3rd-5th grade-Group Modern Song-Star Spangled Banner-Chickasaw Students, Byng Elementary School

2nd place-6th-8th Small Group Traditional Song-God Bless America-Parker & Faith Presley, Byng Elementary School

3rd place-9th-12th grade Medium Group Traditional Song-How Great Thou Art'-ChokkaKilimpi' Family Resource Center

1st place-6th-8th grade-Large Group Modern Song-Footloose-Chipota Chikashshanompoli, Chipota Chikashshanompoli

2nd Place-6th-8th grade-Large Group Modern Song-Don't Stop Believin'-Byng Elementary School Chickasaw Students, Byng Elementary School

Film & Video:

2nd place 6th-8th grade & 9th-12th grade-Film & Video Screening-One Voice, Many Voices-Byng, Byng Elementary School

PowerPoint:

1st place-9th-12th grade-Maka Nitak Anompa Anoli-Dale Shackleford, Shackleford Family

Poster Art:

Grand Prize Winner-Noah Hinson

1st Place-3rd-5th grade- Geralyn Haney, Byng Elementary School

3rd Place 3rd-5th grade- Cyndee Miller, Byng Elementary School

Honorable Mention-6th-8th grade-Leslie Daniel, Byng Elementary School

Poster Submissions:

6th-8th grade-Johnathon Delfrate, Byng Elementary School

3rd-5th grade-Josie Morgan, Chipota Chikashshanompoli

3rd-5th grade-Kristina Harjo, Chipota Chikashshanompoli

Book & Literary:

2nd place-3rd-5th grade- Foni! Noah Hinson, Chickasaw Nation

Grand prize poster art winner Noah Hinson's artwork will be featured on next year's T-shirt.

For more information, please contact Chickasaw Nation Language Department at (580) 436-7272

Noah Hinson with his Grand Prize winning Poster Art.

Noah Hinson's Grand Prize Poster Art.

L-R Jariah Eyachabbe, Melissa Herman and Brandy Herman placed third in 9th-12th grade Medium Group Traditional Song-How Great Thou Art'-ChokkaKilimpi' Family Resource Center.

1st place-6th-8th grade-Large Group Modern Song-Footloose-Chipota Chikashshanompoli, Chipota Chikashshanompoli; Front row L-R Cade Smith, Caymen Smith, Jayse Smith, Josie Morgan, Brendan Nash; Middle Row L-R Akaya Davenport, Peyton McGinley, Kadynce Hamilton, Zoe Allen, Cydnee Miller, Roddrik Orphan; Top Row L-R Anna Mae Palmer, Leslie Orphan, Rendon Parnacher, Isabella McGinley, LaKala Orphan, Bryanna Nash.

More Chickasaw children still seeking homes

Chickasaw foster families fill important role

"In this modern era, quality foster care for our children is a challenge that must be met," Governor Bill Anoatubby said in his January 2015 message to citizens. "We understand the commitment our foster families make to our children, and we are supportive of those foster environments that help shape our children well for adulthood"

There are currently more than 250 Chickasaw children, infants to teenagers, in Oklahoma who are in need of foster homes. These children are in group homes, shelters or under the care of a state or other agency. Another 100-plus Chickasaw children are in other states.

The Chickasaw Nation has 52 licensed foster homes where families care for 63 children. That means approximately 300 Chickasaw children are in the care of other agencies and in need of Native American families willing to take children into their homes for what is typically a temporary stay.

According to Kendra Lowden, foster care resource manager, when a child comes under state or other agency supervision, an attempt is made to place him or her with a family member. If a family member is unavailable, placement in a Native American home is the preference. Children are placed with members of their tribe when possible and, in order to do that, more foster homes are needed.

The process of becoming a foster parent includes submitting paperwork, including an application, background check, fingerprints, financial assessment and health history forms. Applicants must have a CDIB card, be at least 21 years old, able to provide a home for themselves and willing to work with the team of professionals to help provide a loving home for a Chickasaw child in need.

Foster families receive a great deal of support from the Chickasaw Nation Department of Family Services, including counseling and assistance to help meet the child's needs such as medical and day care. In addition, foster parents make a difference in the life of a child during a challenging time.

When Marilyn Coltz, Chickasaw Nation employee and mother of two Chickasaw citizens, was 16, a critical situation left her without a place to call home and more than 100 miles from family members. A foster mom came to her rescue. She provided much more than food and shelter. The woman who took in Ms. Coltz 32 years ago is known as "grandma" to Ms. Coltz's children. Despite that experience, Ms. Coltz had not considered being a foster parent even though she said she had such a wonderful experience and that her life was made better because of it.

Her mind was changed when she learned that two young family members were going to be removed from their home. She decided to become a licensed foster care home so they would be able to remain with their family. When they moved from Ms. Coltz's home, she had not planned on taking any other foster children. However, she received a call from the director of foster care, Arthur Ellsworth, with a request to take a young child for just a few days to provide her an alternative to shelter living. Those few days turned into Ms. Coltz being a foster mom for countless children for more than 10 years, most for short periods of time.

Being a foster parent is more than learning a specific skill set.

"It is the simple things," Ms. Coltz said. "Having food ready, providing a bed to sleep in and clean clothing."

Ms. Lowden described foster parents as "selfless" and expressed appreciation for people who are willing to make a positive impact on the lives of many children and families.

"Marilyn is an excellent example of a supportive foster parent," Ms. Lowden said. "She exhibits patience and has a caring nature, which is what our Chickasaw children need."

If you would like more information about opening your home to foster children, contact Kendra Lowden: (580) 272-5550 or Kendra.Lowden@chickasaw.net.

CONTRIBUTED BY Tamara Roberts, Public Affairs.

Students can now enroll in Chickasaw Young Artists Studio

Young Chickasaw artists are invited to enroll in Chickasaw Young Artists Studio. The studio, prepared by Chickasaw Nation Arts & Humanities, helps the growth of aspiring and emerging Chickasaw artists in grades seven to 12 by providing supervised studio time.

Students will book one of the 10 sessions allotted per week on either Tuesday or Thursday. During the sessions, young artists will work on artwork with an assigned art instructor, build a portfolio and work on art for contest submissions. Students must bring their own supplies and only scheduled artists may be in the studio.

For more information contact Arts & Humanities at (580) 272-5520.

Mother's Day
CELEBRATION
MAY 9-10
SATURDAY: 10 A.M. - 5 P.M.
SUNDAY: 12 P.M. - 4 P.M.
MOTHERS RECEIVE FREE ADMISSION TO THE CHIKASHA POYA EXHIBIT CENTER
CARD WORKSHOP (CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER)
SPECIAL STOMP DANCE DEMONSTRATION
10% DISCOUNT IN THE AAIMPA' CAFÉ AND GIFT SHOPS (EXCLUDES CONSIGNMENT)
CHICKASAW CULTURAL CENTER
Sulphur, Oklahoma • 580.622.7130 • www.chickasawculturalcenter.com
ADVENTURE ROAD
CONNECT WITH US
CHICKASAW COUNTRY

R.B. "Bob" Rodke

R.B. "Bob" Rodke, 91, of Florence died on August 8, 2012, en route to the hospital after suffering a heart attack at home. A memorial service was at Paoli Cemetery on Saturday, April 25,2015.

Col. Rodke was born in Pauls Valley, Okla. He graduated from Paoli High School in 1938 and received a bachelor's degree in business administration from Oklahoma State University in 1943. He served in the Navy during World War II in the Pacific and became a lieutenant junior grade. Upon his honorable discharge he began a career in the oil industry in Artesia, N.M. He later became an independent land man based in Abilene, Texas, and was known for his fairness and professionalism. He moved to Florence in 1971 and retired in 1994.

He was given the honorary title of "colonel" by the governor of Kentucky and was fondly referred to as "The Colonel" by his friends and loved ones. He was a member of Lamba Chi Alpha fraternity while at OSU and was proudly involved with the American Association of Professional Landmen, Rotary, Kiwanis, Elks, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Masons and the American Legion. He took pride in remaining a democrat all of his life.

He was preceded in death by his only son, Robert Rodke II; his younger daughter, Susan Rodke Miller; and outlived three of his life partners, Josephine Farha Rodke, Francis Hott and Catherine McCauley.

He is survived by a daughter, Martha Jo Burns, of Grand Prairie, Texas; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

The family had a service in his hometown of Paoli. Memorials can be made in his honor to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital.

Susan Rodke Miller

Susan Rodke Miller died July 16, 2012 in Loveland, Colo. A memorial service was at Paoli Cemetery on Saturday, April 25,2015.

She was born April 16, 1948 in Artesia, N.M. to R.B. and Josephine Rodke.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Charles Milton Miller; her mother, Josephine Farha Rodke; and her younger brother, Robert Bowling Rodke II.

She is survived by her sister, Martha Jo Rodke Burns; daughter, Sara Diana Miller Arn; and son, John Drew Miller.

Susan served as a beloved elementary school teacher in Tennessee for many years. She will always be remembered for her infectious laugh and sense of humor. She passionately loved her family, friends, and students.

Programs & Services Directory available

The 2015 Programs & Services Directory is now available for download at Chickasaw.net/servicedirectory. Hard copies will soon be mailed directly to all Chickasaw citizens.

The Programs & Services Directory contains information about all tribal programs and services. Inside the directory are program descriptions, contact information and office locations.

Angel Rachelle Harjo

Angel Rachelle Harjo, 23, was a lifelong Seminole County resident. She was born March 5, 1992 in Oklahoma City.

She attended and graduated from Strothers High School, and was a member of North Rock Creek Baptist Church in Shawnee, Okla.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Nagie Underwood and Tecumseh Harjo, and Mary Jane and Johnson Harjo.

Angel is survived by her mother, Pamela D'Ann Underwood, of Konawa, Okla.; father, Raymond Harjo, Sr.; one brother, Raymond Harjo, Jr., of Seminole, Okla.; five sisters, Angelina Yahola, Stephanie Yahola, and Eliza Harjo, all of Seminole, Okla., Wythema Porras, of Shawnee, Okla., and Stephanie Harjo, of Bowlegs, Okla.; and a host of uncles, aunts, nieces, nephews and cousins.

Funeral services were at 2:00 p.m., Friday, April 17, 2015 at the Swearingen Funeral Home Chapel, with burial at the Underwood/Harjo Family cemetery east of Little, Okla., with Abraham Jackson and Ted Underwood officiating.

Angel was taken to the Seminole Nation Community Center, east of Strothers School, where there was a wake service on Thursday, April 16, 2015.

Casket Bearers were Honece Pipestem, Cha-Chio Pipestem, William Pipestem, Ronnie Harjo, Christopher Pipestem, and Curtis Gentry. Honorary bearers were Johnathan Walker, Travis Hunter, Sonny White Buffalo, Jerome Isham, John Underwood and Nathan Harjo.

Funeral arrangements were under the direction of Swearingen Funeral Home in Seminole, Okla.

Alice Maye Phillips

Alice Maye Phillips, 89, of Ada, Okla., went home to be with her Lord and Savior on April 16, 2015.

Alice was born on September 17, 1925 in Garr Corner, just outside Ada, Okla. She was the youngest of eight children born to Galloway and Mittie Mae Bond. She attended school at Vanoss and later, she was a loving wife to Lewis Leroy Phillips for 32 years until he passed away in 1982.

She lived most of her life in Ada. She was a successful Avon representative for 18 years. After retiring, she devoted her time to serving others. She volunteered at the Chickasaw Senior Center and gift shop and helped in organizing the Volunteer Auxiliary at Carl Albert Indian Hospital. She was part of the Chickasaw Cats band for several years. She also held offices in the Rebekah Lodge, V.F.W. Auxiliary, and AARP. She was a devoted Christian and longtime member of the First Free Will Baptist Church and was the benevolence chairperson for over forty years.

She is survived by her husband Jerry, of Ada, Okla.;son Raymond Phillips and wife BJ, of Abbeville, Ala.; daughters Vickie Ballard, and Janice Garrett and husband Larry, of Newcastle, Okla.; eight grandchildren: Michael Phillips, Christopher Ballard, Rebecca Totten, Beth Couch, Misty Garrett, Amber Brown, Autumn Garrett, and Tacoma Phillips; twelve great grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews, cousins and a host of other loving relatives and friends.

Alice will be remembered as a loving wife, mother, grandmother, and friend. She always listened, gave encouraging words, and never hesitated to say "I love you" and "I'm proud of you."

The family wants to thank those who showed special kindness and care to Alice in her times of need --namely, Tandy Parr and Laquita Bond. Your acts of kindness will always be remembered.

Funeral services were Monday, April 20th at 2:00pm at the First Freewill Baptist Church in Ada. Interment was at Memorial Park in Ada. Arrangements were by Smith-Phillips Funeral Home.

Douglas Johnston "Dougie" Harbach

Douglas Johnston "Dougie" Harbach, 101, of Ada, Okla., died Monday, April 6, 2015 at a local nursing home. She was born February 18, 1914 in the Chickasaw White House at Emet, Okla. to Langdon and Juanita Johnston Smith. She was the granddaughter of Chickasaw Nation Governor Douglas Johnston. She graduated from Central High School in Oklahoma City. She spent many summers of her youth at the Chickasaw White House and later in life, she and her sister LaNita Stuart, donated the Chickasaw White House to the Chickasaw Nation.

In the 1930's, she made her name modeling in New York and later married producer William Harbach. Ms. Harbach was a professional model and lived in Tangiers, Morocco from 1971 until returning to Oklahoma in 2013.

Survivors include her ex-husband, Bill Harbach; a niece and nephew, Megan Wosaba and Bruce Stuart; and a great-niece and great-nephew, Shannon Myers and Gordon Myers.

Memorial services for her will be at a later date.

In lieu of flowers or gifts the family asks for donations to be made in the name of Dougie Harbach to Halo Hospice of Ada, 701 N. Broadway, Ada, OK 74820.

Donna Renee Taylor

Donna Renee Taylor, 48, died Monday, March 2, 2015, in Ardmore, Okla. She was born on October 30, 1966, in Los Angeles, Calif., to Virgil Daniel Carney and Sealin (Carterby) Carney.

She attended Dickson Schools. She was a homemaker for most of her life and will be remembered for the care and love she gave her family. Her grandchildren were her focus. She was an avid fisherwoman, loved spending time outdoors, and working in her garden. She and her fiancé, Alan Tipton, spent many hours at their favorite fishing holes throughout the county. She was a lover of animals.

She is preceded in death by her parents; husband, Abbott James Taylor; and sister, Dana Carney.

Donna is survived by her fiancé, Alan Tipton, of the home; four sons, Darnell James Taylor, Rein Jacob Taylor, Julian Matt Taylor, Sr. and wife, Ashley, and Ethan Bryce Taylor and wife, Amanda, all of Ardmore, Okla.; five grandchildren; brother, Daniel Carney; and sister, Debra Parker, both of Ardmore, Okla.

Graveside services were March 5, 2015, at Durwood Cemetery in Marshall County, Okla., with Reverend Steve Wall officiating.

A wake service was on March 4, 2015 at Griffin ~ Hillcrest Funeral Home.

Charles Morgan Wells

ADA - Charles Morgan Wells, 89, of Ada, Okla., died Tuesday, April 21, 2015 at his home. He was born October 8, 1925 in Lockney, Texas, to Charles Miles Chock" Wells and Lura Stella "Bobbie" Thomas Wells.

He married Phercella Mae Lois Cogburn June 2, 1951 in Coalgate, Okla. Mr. Wells was a retired sign painter for the Oklahoma State Transportation Department. He was a member of the East Main church of Christ in Stratford, Okla. He was a Chickasaw elder and a long time Chickasaw Nation volunteer. He served in the Navy and was a World War II veteran serving his country as a Seaman First Class.

He faithfully took care of his wife, Phercella "Tiny" Wells, always loving her and asking her if she was his sugar.

He was preceded in death by his father and mother and a son, Wayneth Lynn Wells, and a brother, W.R. Wells.

Survivors include his wife, Phercella "Tiny" Wells, of the home; one sister, Mary Jo Lambert, of Coalgate, Okla.; one son, C.M. Danny Wells and wife Betty, of Stratford, Okla.; one daughter, Malipsa Wells and friend, Vernon Sweat, of Stonewall, Okla.; daughters-in-law, Sandra Wells, of Ada, Okla., and Lagatha Wells, of Norman, Okla.; grandchildren, Shamus Wells and wife, Kay, of Byng, Okla., Cassie Wells, of Oklahoma City, Katie Wells, of Stratford, Okla., Micah Wells, of Norman, Okla., Jared Wells and wife, Rachel, of Stratford, Okla., and Jeffrey Wells and wife, Hannah, of Edmond, Okla.; great-grandchildren, Ivy Wells, of New Kent, Va., Dalton Musser, of Byng, Okla., Corbin Wells, of Byng, Okla., Ty, Taryn, Bethany and Kyle Wells, of Stratford, Okla., Baylee Tyler and Marlee Wells, of Norman, Okla.

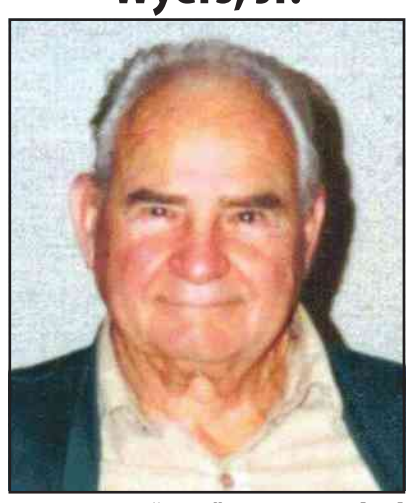
Services were at 2:00 p.m. Saturday at the Criswell Funeral Home Chapel, grandsons Jared Wells and Jeffrey Wells officiated. Burial followed at Wells

Valley Family Cemetery, located west of Wapanucka, Okla. Family visitation with the family was Friday from 6-8 pm at the Criswell Funeral Home.

Pallbearers were Jared Wells, Jeffrey Wells, Shamus Wells, Jimmie Jarrell, Joe Willingham and Duane Rosson. Honorary pallbearers were Kenneth Jarrell, O.A. Savage, Ray Jarrell, Joe Lambert, Jimmy Lambert and Johnny Lambert.

Special appreciation goes to all of the staff of Aspire and McCortney Family In-home Care, especially to Melissa Dolling and Michelle Woods, 24/7 caregivers. You all provide amazing services taking such good care of Morgan. A special thank you to the Chickasaw Honor Guard for their tribute to him as a veteran.

Sampson "Sam" Wyers, Jr.



Sampson "Sam" Wyers, Jr. died March 23, 2015. He was born in Stigler, Okla. January 10, 1925 to Ruth Oteka Oliphant and Sampson Wyers.

He graduated from Stigler High School in 1943 and immediately joined the US Navy. He went through boot camp in San Diego, Calif. and was assigned to the Naval Hospital Corp School where he trained as a medical hospital corpsman for six weeks. Sam was assigned to a troop transport, USS Prince Georges, and served two and a half years in the Pacific Theatre. His ship participated in the invasions of the Gilbert Islands, Marshall Islands, the Marianas, Saipan, Tinian, and the final invasion of Okinawa. After the surrender of Japan, his ship sailed into Tokyo Bay; he had shore leave there while the ship took on Americans who had been Japanese prisoners. He was discharged from the Navy in Oklahoma City on February 16, 1946.

Sam was very proud of his Native American heritage. His mother was of Chickasaw blood, and his father was part Choctaw. Both of his parents were original enrollees on the Dawes Rolls in Indian Territory. He was a citizen of the Chickasaw Nation and participated in elections.

Sam married Helen Patricia Buske in 1950 while he was attending Oklahoma A & M in Stillwater, Okla. They lived in Veterans Village, outside of Stillwater, until he graduated from the college in 1954 having earned a BS in psychology. He, his wife, and sons immediately moved to California. After living briefly in Hawthorne and Compton, the family settled and lived in Encino for 21 years. In Encino they were involved in the Cub and Boy Scouts. Sam served as a Boy Scout leader for two years. They moved to Newbury Park in 1980, and Sam retired from the Bank of America in 1986 after 31 years.

Sam celebrated his 90th birthday in January, and he and Helen celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary in February of this year.

Sampson was preceded in death by his brother, Paul Tecumseh Wyers; and sisters, Laquita Francell (Wyers) Yatsik and Oteka Johnese (Wyers) Mastrangelo.

He is survived by his wife, Helen; sons, Sampson "Skip" Wyers III and David Mark Wyers; daughter-in-law, Kimberly Reed; three grandchildren, James Wyers, Mark David Wyers, and Kristyn (Wyers) Oliver; and two brothers, Patrick Zane Wyers and Scotty Wyers.

Mr. Wyers died of Coronary Vascular Disease with Diabetes as a contributing factor. He was laid to rest at the Conejo Mountain Memorial Park in Camarillo, Calif.

Bullet
A Chickasaw Company
Looking for
Job ID# 2015-1610 : Truck Drivers
Class A CDL with Tanker Endorsement
Oil & Gas experience preferred
Location: Velma, OK
Great Benefits
Competitive Wages
80 hours Guaranteed Biweekly
Medical, Dental, Vision, 401k, Paid Time Off
Best late model equipment & furnished uniforms
Bullet Energy Service, LLC
operates an environmentally-aware
salt water disposal well and
trucking operation in
South Central Oklahoma.
Apply in person at the Velma Location,
Highway 7 & Alma Rd
or online at
www.chickasaw.com/careers
Call 405-253-8345 for more details

Anompa Himitta' Ilikba'shki: Creating New Words in Chickasaw

Pauline Brown

Elder, fluent Chickasaw speaker has zest for life

Pauline Brown has a zeal for all Chickasaws to speak and understand their language. The revered Chickasaw elder has spoken Chickasaw all her life and is a vital member of the Chickasaw Language Committee.

Mrs. Brown's mother, Murtle Gipson, spoke Chickasaw exclusively. Her father knew English as well as Chickasaw, but he spoke Chickasaw at home and with his people. One of Mrs. Brown's mother's last statements to her children was, "The only thing I hate and dread is leaving y'all by yourselves, because you're not going to speak Chickasaw. From here on, you'll be speaking English."

"And she was right," Mrs. Brown said.

She had three brothers, two sisters and a stepbrother, whom they called Cubby. "Chickasaws used to call their first-born boy babies 'Cubby'," she said. "I knew lots of boys called Cubby."

In the early 1930s when the oil boom hit, Mrs. Brown said an exploration company found oil on her mother's allotment at Jesse, Oklahoma and paid her a large sum of money. Their family, like most Indian people, were poor. Mrs. Brown said her father would steal into pastures and get goats' and cows' milk to feed her, her brothers and sisters.

Her mother built a house with the new-found money and filled it with the best furniture she could find.

"It had a long front porch all the way across the front, and the same at the back," Mrs. Brown said. "She built a cistern at the end of the back porch to catch the rainwater and what ran off the roof."

Her mother had the newest in wood stoves in the kitchen and living room.

Ms. Gipson bought new clothes and shoes for her children, including a white furry coat for little Pauline, of which she was duly proud.

"It was luxurious," Mrs. Brown said.

A large new big red barn with a hay loft graced the farmyard, and Mrs. Gipson bought all the latest farm equipment they needed. She also bought a new 1935 Dodge sedan with wooden spoke wheels and for the oldest boy, she bought a paint horse.

According to Mrs. Brown, several other women who lived on the same road also received money for their minerals.

"They had new houses and cars, too. We would watch them drive by. It was interesting," she said.

Mrs. Brown's mother contracted tuberculosis in 1945 and passed away after a short time. Meanwhile, Mrs. Brown's father drove a truck with which he moved oil field housing and equipment and was gone most of the time. The children were sent to live with grandparents in Allen, Oklahoma. They were not happy there and returned home after a few weeks and looked after themselves.

A Different Life

Their father brought groceries when he came home, and the children raised their garden as usual.

Pauline Brown

They also had their familiar places to play. A creek ran near the house. It was the children's fishing and swimming hole, its banks their playground, and in winter they skated on its frozen surface.

Mrs. Brown and her brothers and sisters climbed and walked the rails of an iron bridge that spanned the creek.

"We were like trapeze walkers," she said. "I would never let my kids do any of the things we did!"

Mrs. Brown's father eventually sent the children to boarding school. He spoke with the children and told them he wanted them kept together, so he was sending them to Goodland Boarding School in Hugo, Oklahoma.

Goodland Boarding School

Mrs. Brown's mother's prophesy was correct. Only English could be spoken at Goodland – no Indian tongues.

"Oh, you got into so much trouble for speaking your language there," Mrs. Brown said. "A Choctaw girl and I talked as we worked together. One word – just one word – they heard, and I got six months' detention."

When they were alone, however, the children spoke their own languages.

Mrs. Brown was at Goodland for six years and graduated from high school there.

"I promised myself I was going to walk across that stage and wear one of those square hats and have a tassel in my hand, whatever I did," she said. "I had a hard time, but I studied hard. I was the second-highest student."

Making a Life

From Goodland, Mrs. Brown went to Oklahoma City, where she found a job at St. Anthony's Hospital as a nurses' aide. While working as an aide, she studied to become a Licensed Practical Nurse. During this time, she met Wilson James Brown, who was serving in the U.S. Army. Soon, they were married.

Mr. Brown had several duty posts during his military career. Mrs. Brown accompanied him on his moves and continued working as a nurse. She remained in the United States when he was sent to Germany, however.

When Mr. Brown finished his military service, the couple worked in Texas and Oklahoma, then became employees of the Chickasaw Nation in the 1960s. Mr. Brown worked for the tribe until he died, Mrs. Brown, until she retired.

Mrs. Brown is a member of the Chickasaw Nation Historical Society and serves on the tribe's election board. She also uses her knowledge of the Chickasaws and Chickasaw history as a consultant to Wickliffe Mounds Archeological Site in Kentucky, the Union County Historical and Genealogical Museum and the Old Post Office Museum, both in Mississippi.

She appeared as a named character in the Chickasaw Nation-produced film Pearl and helped make period costumes for the Te Ata film, also a Chickasaw Nation production.

Proud of her life, her three daughters, LaDonna, Lisa and Gina, and her Chickasaw heritage, Mrs. Brown said, "I'm 83 years old now, still going strong (she is!), and I praise the Lord for it."

The Chickasaw Language Committee

Governor Bill Anoatubby invited Mrs. Brown to become a member of the new Chickasaw Language Committee when it was created in the 1990s. Its members, all fluent speakers, were appointed by Governor Anoatubby, according to Department of Chickasaw Language Director Joshua Hinson.

The committee's primary purpose is the creation of Chickasaw language words for new English words, Hinson said. "This keeps the Chickasaw language up-to-date," he said. According to him, if the Chickasaw language does not keep pace with the dominant culture's new words, it will fall into disuse and disappear. The new words allow emerging speakers to say the newest English words, such as computer, Ipod and cell phone, he said, adding that the committee works on four-to-eight new words at each monthly meeting.

"Speaking our language is important to us as Chickasaws," Mrs. Brown said. "It's important for our life, for us as a nation."

CONTRIBUTED BY Tom Bailey, Public Affairs.

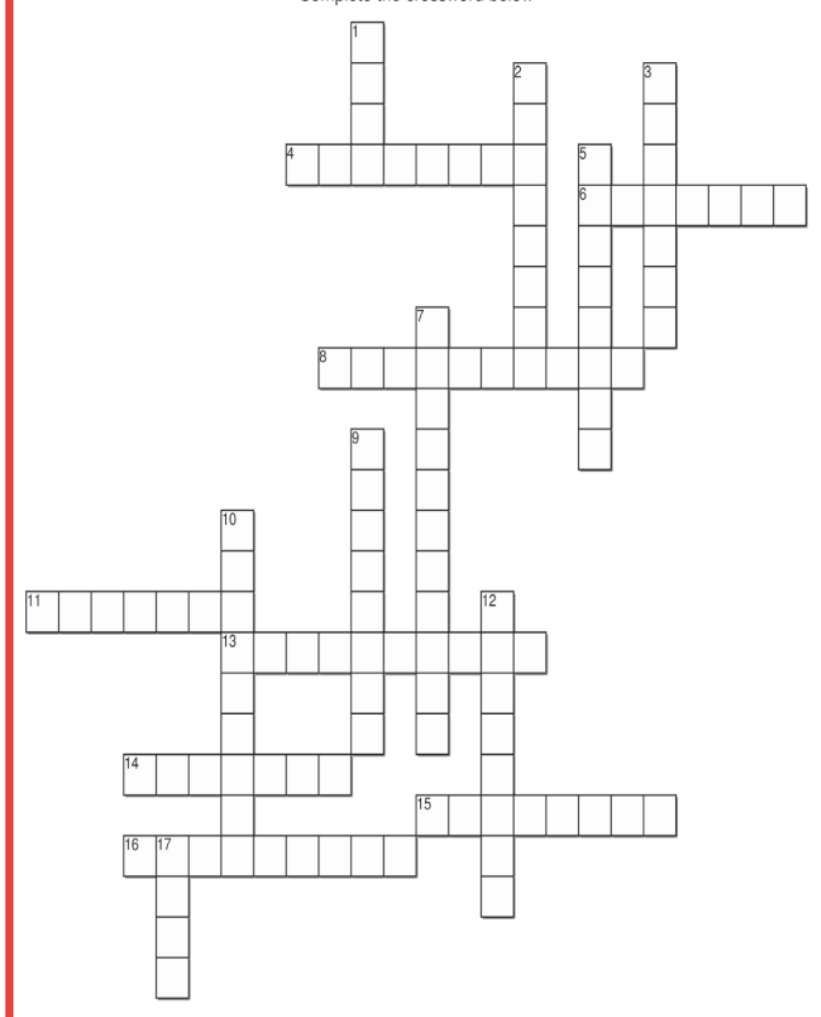
Anompa Himitta':

New Words from the Chickasaw Language Committee

hattak illapa' / shokha' hakshop kallo'	'armadillo'
naki' tokafishto'	'atomic bomb'
oktak shawi'	'badger'
nannishmallichi'	'battery'
choosi	'to choose'
inchoosi	'to choose for'
toksala'pa sikopa'	'dinosaur'
Ishshoka' Holisso	'Facebook'
shokha' haloppa', shokha' woksho ihaloppa'	'hedgehog'
nannola'	'iPod'
bashpo falaa' ashoppala'	'lightsaber'
anompa himitta'	'neologism'
anompa' ittibaakaachi'	'sentence', 'grammatical unit'
holba' ishtchokoshkomo'	'video game'
oktaak ofi	'prairie dog'
nannimilhlha'	'wild animals'
talaanompa' ishtáa'	'cell phone'
tali' lopi'	'computer'
tali' lopi' lawa'	'Internet'
ilbakishki' anompoli	'text' (verb)
foyopa bilamachi'	'Altoids' (breath mints)
osakishto' champoli'	'coconut'
hommahomma' okchi'	'hot sauce'
paska talakchi'	'pretzel'

New Chickasaw Words for May

Complete the crossword below



Across

4. tali' lopi' lawa'
6. foyopa bilamachi' - strong breath mints that come in a tin container
8. oktaak ofi
11. paska talakchi' - a crisp, dry biscuit, usually in the form of a knot or stick, salted on the outside
13. bashpo falaa' ashoppala'
14. osakishto' champoli' - the large, hard-shelled seed of this palm, lined with a white edible meat, and containing a milky liquid
15. toksala'pa sikopa'
16. holba' ishtchokoshkomo'

Down

1. ilbakishki' anompoli
2. hommahomma' okchi' - any of several highly spiced, pungent condiments, especially one containing some type of pepper or chili.
3. nannishmallichi'
5. Ishshoka' Holisso
7. nannimilhlha'
9. tali' lopi'
10. talaanompa' ishtáa'
12. anompa' ittibaakaachi'
17. nannola'

Military care packages

The Chickasaw Nation distributes military care packages to service personnel stationed away from their permanent residences.

The military care package distribution list is made up of Chickasaws, spouses of Chickasaws, Chickasaw Nation employees, spouses of employees and children of employees on active duty and stationed away from their permanent residences.

If you know men or women who fit the criteria and would like to add them to the military care package list, please contact Lauren Osborne at (580) 310-6451 or Chickasaw.Veterans@chickasaw.net .

Thank you for your assistance and for supporting our troops!

CHICKASAW COMMUNITY COUNCILS

For a complete listing of Chickasaw Nation camps, academies and other events visit www.chickasaw.net

OKLAHOMA

ACHILLE
Achille Area Chickasaws
Quarterly, last Saturday at 1:30 p.m.
Kay Anders, 580-283-3979

CONNERVILLE
Connerville Chickasaw Community Council
Bi-Monthly, 3rd Monday at 6:30 p.m.
Tony Poe, 580-421-4994

KINGSTON
Chickasaws of Texoma
Quarterly, 4th Thursday at 6:30 p.m.
Ruth McAdoo, 580-564-6803

Marshall County Chickasaw Community Council
Monthly, 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.
Sarah Lea, 580-564-4570

NEWCASTLE
Northern Pontotoc Chickasaw Community Council
Monthly, 2nd Thursday
Potluck @ 6 p.m. & Meeting @ 7 p.m.
Todd Griffith, 405-615-1303

OKLAHOMA CITY
OKC Metro Chickasaw Community Council
1st Tuesday
Potluck @ 6 p.m. & Meeting @ 7 p.m.
Vicki Monks, 405-524-4506
Chickasawvic@gmail.com

PURCELL
Purcell Chickasaw Community Council
4th Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.
Carolee Maxwell, 405-527-7676

ARIZONA
Chickasaws of Arizona
Quarterly Meetings
Angie Ott, 480-834-7309

CALIFORNIA
Southern California Chickasaw Community Council
Quarterly, 3rd Saturday 2:00 p.m.
Bill Chandler, 714-604-5224
wchandler@socal.rr.com
Northern California Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly
Phil Reynolds, 916-988-8182

COLORADO
Chickasaw Community Council of Colorado
Bi-Monthly
Beverly Rodgers
(303) 719-3527

KANSAS
Chickasaw Community Council of Wichita
Quarterly, 3rd Sunday at 2:30 p.m.
Lynn Stumblingbear, 316-945-9219

LOUISIANA
Monroe Area Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Semi-Annually
Chickasaw Outreach, 580-332-1165

MISSOURI
St. Louis Area Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Semi-Annually
Chickasaw Outreach, 580-332-1165

NEW ENGLAND
New England Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Semi-Annually
Chickasaw Outreach, 580-332-1165

NEW MEXICO
New Mexico Chickasaw Community Council
Quarterly
Rita Yepa, 505-350-8372

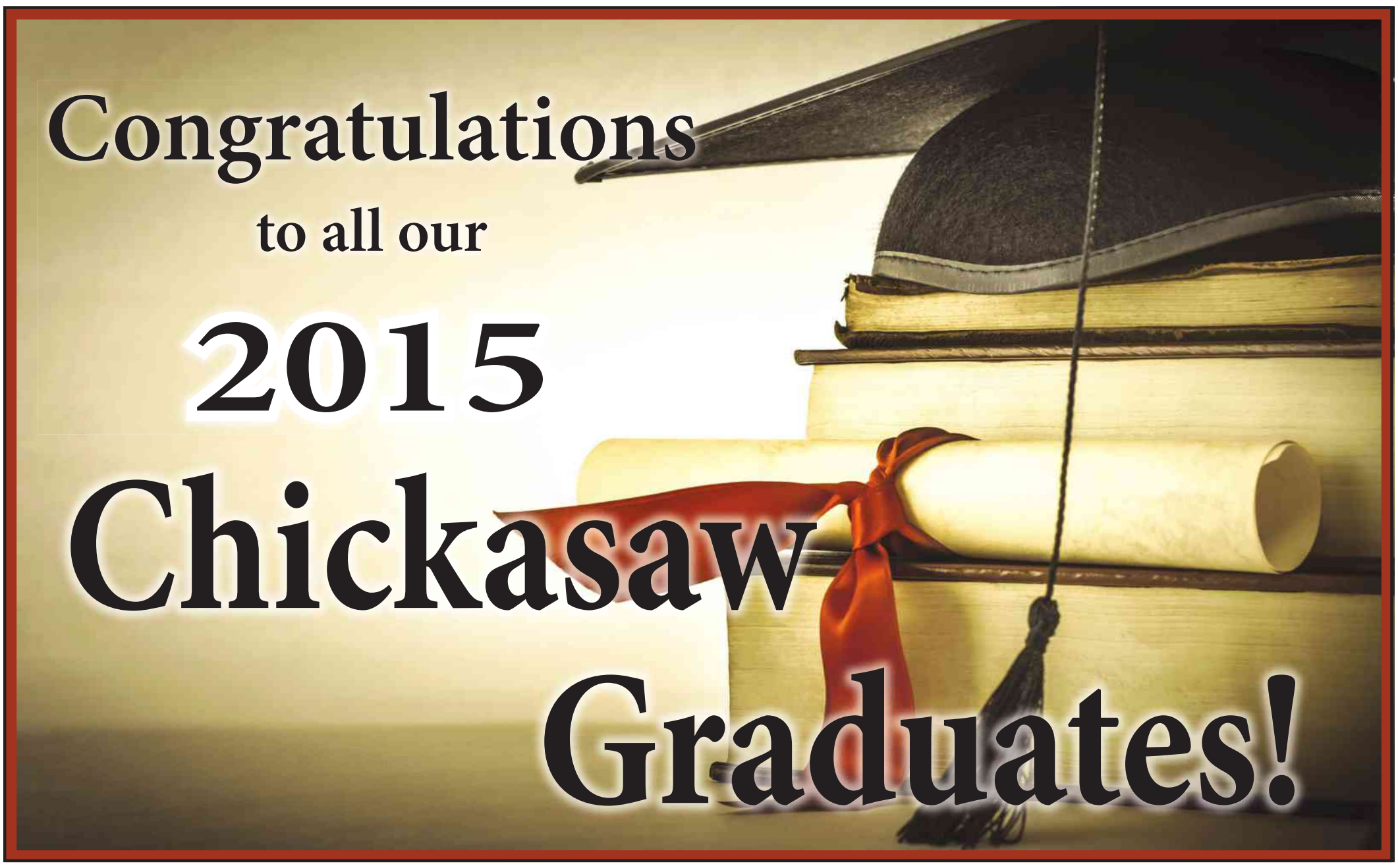
OREGON/WASHINGTON
Pacific Northwest Chickasaw Community Council
Quarterly
Rena Smith, 503-543-7401

TEXAS
Chickasaw Community Council of Central Texas
2nd Sunday at 2 p.m.
Jay Hurst, 512-784-5281
centraltexaschickasaws@gmail.com

Chickasaw Community Council of South Texas
Monthly, 2nd Sunday at 2 p.m.
Ellen Brooker
ebrooker@swisd.net

North Texas Chickasaw Community Council
3rd Saturday, Bedford, Texas
John Atkins
972-271-0692

Tyler Area Chickasaw Community Council
Quarterly
Howard Thompson, 903-570-9244



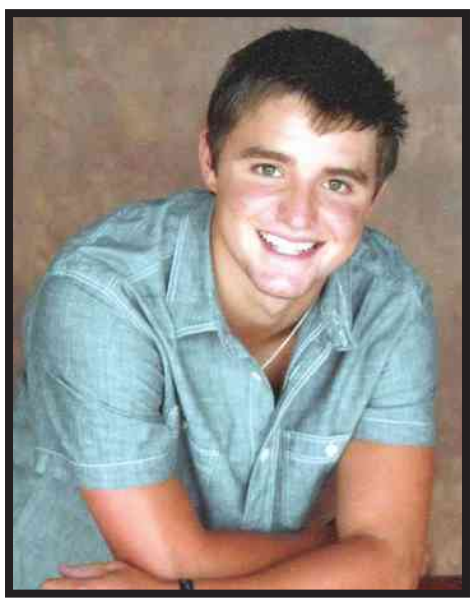
Conner Michael Mann

Conner Michael Mann is a 2015 graduate of Coppell High School, Coppell, Texas. He is the son of Gary and Kristi Mann, and the grandson of David and Kay Dunn, of Madill, Okla., and Ronald and Mary Mann, of Katy, Texas.

Conner is a National AP Scholar and in the top five percent of his class. While at CHS, he was a member of the National Honor Society, Student Council, Hope for Africa, Coppell Teen Leadership and the Young Men's Service League. He was voted "Most Likely To Succeed" by his senior classmates. He played basketball for eight years and is an avid Dallas Mavericks fan.

In the fall, Conner will be attending The University of Texas in Austin and majoring in business.

Cooper Norris Biggers



Cooper Norris Biggers, of Oklahoma City, is a 2015 graduate of the University of Oklahoma in Norman. He is the son of Mike and Kellie Biggers, and the grandson of Rita Norris and the late Harvey Norris, and Jerry Biggers.

Cooper played baseball at Butler Junior College in El Dorado, Kan., his freshman year of college. He transferred to the University of Oklahoma his sophomore year. There he was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon. He will graduate with a bachelor's degree in political science and plans to attend law school.

Cooper and his family would like to thank the Chickasaw Nation for all the scholarships that were available. This helped him and his family with educational expenses.

Skylar Addicks

Skylar Addicks, of Wylie, Texas, is a 2015 graduate of Texas Christian University. She is the daughter of John and Theresa Addicks, sister of Sean Addicks, granddaughter of Jimmy and Glenda Beach, and great-granddaughter of Leroy and Marlene Hoffard, all of Wylie, Texas.

She is a four-time TCU scholar and has made the Dean's List every semester of her undergraduate career. She is scheduled to graduate with honors in May 2015, and chose to double major in mechanical engineering and mathematics.

During her time at TCU, Skylar received several merit scholarships, including the Dean's Scholarship, the Jerry W. Allen Scholarship from the engineering department, and a one-time scholarship from BlackBerry. She also had the opportunity to participate in a weeklong boot camp at Bell Helicopter where participants tour company locations, locally and in Amarillo, Texas and compete to come up with a new engineering design.

Skylar eventually decided she wanted to work in the energy sector after completing two internships with EOG Resources. She first worked in midstream at a natural gas processing plant in Bowie, Texas. The following summer, she was asked to test a piece of new equipment for the company's facilities department, and do a performance and economic analyses of her findings.

Skylar loves the caring community TCU has provided, and credits her professors for encouraging her to network and put herself out there. She also appreciates how well rounded her college experience has been. Skylar is a proud member of Zeta Tau Alpha, worked as a resident assistant on campus, and is president of the Society of Women Engineers.

She has already accrued enough real-world experience in the field to earn a coveted position in the energy sector when she graduates in May and will wear her Chickasaw Nation Honor Stole with pride.

Saela Kent Beninati

Saela Kent Beninati is a 2015 graduate of Ada High School, Ada, Okla. She is the daughter of Rebecca Ayres, and the granddaughter of Louise Gore and the late Maxey Kent Ayres.

Words cannot begin to describe how proud I am of you Saela B!

You have exceeded my biggest hopes and dreams. If I could have put a personal order in, or written an exact recipe for the perfect child, you could not possibly have been any better than the person you are. No one is perfect, of course, but the wonderful part is that you strive to achieve your personal best and by doing so you challenge me to become better as well. You are constantly challenging your mind, your body and your soul, all with grace and humor.

From the day you were born, you knew what you wanted and you weren't afraid to let the whole world know if you weren't getting it. I've never seen such persistence in a child. When I was completely at my wits end in those particularly headstrong days, I remember thinking, "What am I going to do with this child?" Even though I wanted to refine that stubborn streak in you, I never wanted you to lose it, because I knew it would be that determination that would make you lead instead of follow. It would give you the courage to speak up. It would give you the strength to stand up for yourself. And if you could get past your fear, it would give you the fortitude that would catapult you into a successful future.

Today, as you ride off on another kind of journey, with your refined determination, this is my advice to you. Continue to take chances. Be willing to risk bumps and bruises to go after the things that you really want. When fear is holding you back, and you need an extra dose of courage, know that I will always be there cheering you on, and I will always give you a soft place to land. Stand up. Speak out. Try. Fail. Try again. Always remember who you are and where you came from. Love. Live. Fly.

I love you more than I could ever express and I'm so proud to be your mother. Stay determined to be as fabulous tomorrow as you are today and you will achieve great things.

Congratulations Saela B! Today is the first day of the best of your life.

Love always and forever,

Mom

Amanda Louise Banks

Amanda Louise Banks is a 2015 graduate of Gunter High School, Gunter, Texas. She is the daughter of Jeff and Regina Jack Banks. She is the granddaughter of Bruce Arlen and Barbara Jack. She is the great-granddaughter of Thomas (Tom) Jack, the great-great-granddaughter of Walter Thomas Jack, and the great-great-great-granddaughter of Mary Sugar (Shug) Johnson Jack, an original enrollee.

Amanda is a member of National English Honor Society, the varsity track team and the varsity cross country team.

Her plan is to attend the University of Oklahoma in Norman, to pursue a degree in pre-law.

Daysha Lashay Johnson

Daysha Lashay Johnson is a 2015 graduate of Bridge Creek High School, Blanchard, Okla. She is the daughter of Cornelius Hannah and Nicole Johnson, of Hobbs, N.M.

Daysha hopes to continue going to school to obtain a degree in music production.

Ceara Renee Hogue

Ceara Renee Hogue, of Ada, Okla., is a 2015 graduate of Byng High School, Ada, Okla. She is the daughter of Harvey and Renee Hogue, sister of Chaylum Hogue, and the granddaughter of Kenneth and LaQuita Bond, and the late Warren and Azell Hogue.

Ceara is a member of the National Honor Society, the Oklahoma Indian Student Honor Society, which requires a cumulative GPA of 3.9 or higher, talented program and superintendent's honor roll. She is an active member of the Byng FFA chapter, where she has competed on the floriculture team since eighth grade. She has participated in the Chickasaw Nation Summer Youth program where she worked with the Byng horticulture and agriculture programs for four years. In April, at the 2015 State FFA Convention, she received her FFA State Degree. She has been a concurrent student at East Central University where she will attend full-time in the fall of 2015 with plans to major in English.

Jimmy Tishomingo Wynne

Jimmy Tishomingo Wynne is a 2015 graduate of Bridge Creek High School, Blanchard, Okla. He is the son of Jennifer and Sgt. Maj. Jimmy Wynne, of Bridge Creek, Okla.

Jimmy has been a member of the National Honor Society for three years and is the Student Body President. He is a three-year football letterman, three-year basketball letterman, three-year track letterman, a one-year baseball letterman, and a golf letterman. He was a delegate at Oklahoma Boys State. He has received an appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland where he will attend school to receive his bachelor's degree in nuclear engineering and will then serve in the military. His entire family is very proud of all that Jimmy has accomplished and are blessed that he has chosen the military as a career in support of this great nation.

Logan Michael Havern

Logan Michael Havern is a 2015 graduate of The Woodlands High School, The Woodlands, Texas. He is the son of Chris and Amy Havern, and the grandson of Tim and Amanda Havern, of El Reno, Okla., and Dave and Jan Ledbetter, of Williamsburg, Va.

Logan earned four academic letters and is also a varsity soccer letterman. He is a member of Mu Alpha Theta, the National Honor Society, and The Woodlands United Methodist Church. Logan played TWHS football in 9th grade and TWHS soccer in 10th, 11th and 12th grades. The 2015 TWHS varsity soccer team won the top spot in its 6A district. He was also involved in the RUSH competitive soccer program during high school.

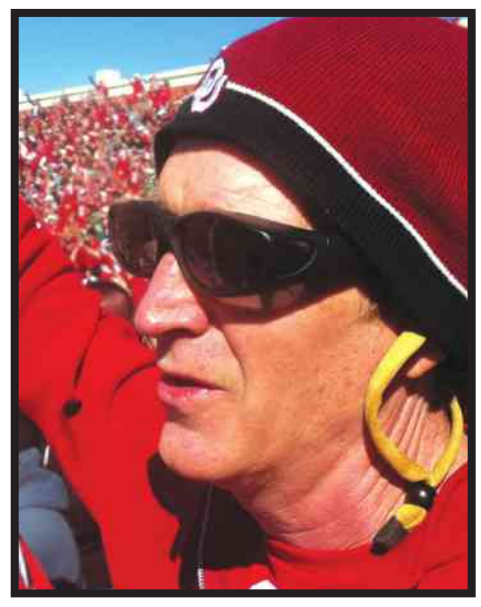
Logan will be attending Texas A&M University, College Station, in the fall and plans to study engineering.

Megan Bomboy

Megan Bomboy, of Newalla, Okla., is a 2015 graduate of Little Axe High School, Little Axe, Okla. She is the daughter of Mark and Shannon Bomboy, and the granddaughter of Sue and Jim Bomboy, and Floyd and Helen Welchel.

Megan has been involved in girls basketball, Special Olympics, and was homecoming queen her senior year. She helps raise money for the Down Syndrome Association, and volunteers for the American Legion. She is currently employed part-time at LA daycare.

Russell Clarke Dutnell



Russell Clarke Dutnell is a 2015 graduate of the University of Oklahoma, Norman.

He has received numerous grants from the Chickasaw Nation in his pursuit of higher education and is receiving a doctorate in engineering from OU. His work will be complete and recognized at OU's graduation ceremonies May 10 and 11, 2015.

Abigail 'Abbey' Kliewer

Abigail "Abbey" Kliewer is a 2015 graduate of Cordell High School, Cordell, Okla. She is the daughter of Phil Kliewer and Milli Kliewer, and the granddaughter of Frank and Marilyn Kliewer, and Gwen and Gary Russ.

She is ranked fourth in her class of 37 and is a member of the National Honor Society. She is on the Superintendent's Honor Roll and has a 4.93 GPA through seven semesters of high school. She has been offered an equine scholarship at Texas Christian University to ride on the school's Division I team. She is involved in OQHYA as an officer, Club Scrub (medical field club), and softball. She has also won numerous riding awards in national horse shows since 2009.

Adria Ruth Brown

Adria Ruth Brown is a 2015 graduate of Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H. She is graduating with a bachelor's degree in Native American studies and art history. She is the daughter of Amy and Andrew Brown, of St. Louis, Mo., granddaughter of Tishomingo (OK) City Councilman Donald Keel and Kay Brown, great-granddaughter of original enrollee, the late Freeman Keel and Hilda Keel, and the great-niece of Lt. Governor Jefferson Keel.

Adria served as the co-president of Native Americans at Dartmouth, as an undergraduate adviser for the Native American House, as an intern for the Hood Museum of Art, and as the Editor-in-Chief of the Collegiate Journal of Art. She is the recipient of the Native American Alumni Association of Dartmouth's Emerging Leader Award, the Dartmouth College Utah-St. Louis Endowed Scholarship, and various Chickasaw Nation higher education scholarships.

Her plan is to apply to Ph.D. programs in the fall.

Brian Freeman

Brian Freeman is a 2015 graduate of Berkner High School, Richardson, Texas. He is the son of Tim Freeman and "Mamaw" Helen Freeman, and the grandson of Helen Freeman and the late Fred Freeman.

He is on the varsity football team, was Varsity Man, a member of the comedy troupe, and young life. He plans to attend college and major in kinesiology.

Brooke Renee' Schumacher

Brooke Renee' Schumacher, of Atwood, Okla., is a 2015 graduate of Calvin High School, Calvin, Okla. She is the daughter of LaDonna Wilbanks and Ken Schumacher, and granddaughter of Gary and Truby DeShields, Stephanie Lawson, and the late Ron Schumacher. She is also a descendent of original Chickasaw enrollees Mamie Tushkatomby and Walter Seeley. She is the great-granddaughter of Iree Seeley, of Sulphur, Okla., and the late Joe (Booth) Seeley.

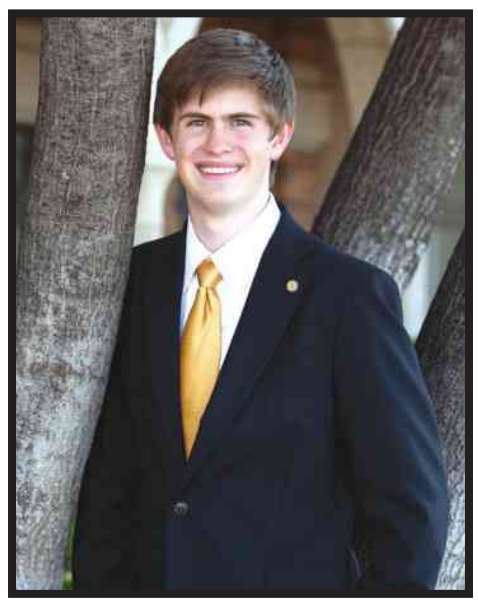
She has attended Calvin Schools from pre-k to 12th grade and has been on the Superintendent's Honor Roll each year. She currently is co-valedictorian of her graduating class. She is also the current FFA President and senior class president, as well as being voted Miss CHS. She has been an FFA officer for the previous three years. Due to her academic achievements, she has been listed in *Who's Who*, Chickasaw Honor Club, National Honor Society, and has been a member of the high school scholastic team. She was selected to serve as a First National Bank of Holdenville, Okla. student board member. In addition, she has been concurrently enrolled at Seminole State College. Her extra-curricular activities include FFA land judging team, FFA speech contests, basketball, and cheerleading. Brooke is excited about attending East Central University, beginning in the fall, where she is currently enrolled as a pre-med student.

Dillon Standridge

Dillon Standridge, of Del City, Okla., is a 2015 graduate of the University of Southern California. He is the son of Darrell and Gina Standridge, and the grandson of Richard Hatton, Shirley Byrd Emmerling, and Darrell and Barbara Standridge.

Dillon will receive a bachelor's degree in sociology with a minor in popular music studies. He has an overall GPA of 3.4. He plans to attend law school and/or graduate school. He has been accepted into several schools but is undecided on a school at this time. He would like to be a contract lawyer or study international law.

Caleb Carter



Caleb Carter is a 2015 graduate (105.78 GPA) and valedictorian of Abilene High School, Abilene, Texas. He is the son of Troy and Kathy Carter, grandson of Larry and Gayle Black, of Amarillo, Texas, and great-grandson of Maxine G. Cockrell.

Caleb was class president all four years, National Honor Society president, math president, debate co-president, and technology co-president. He was a member of the Texas All-State Choir, National AP Scholar, and National Merit Scholarship winner. His sophomore year, he won the State Championship in Skills USA Computer Maintenance/Technology, placing in Top 20 at Nationals. During his junior year he qualified for State UIL Debate in both policy and congress. He also qualified for State Policy Debate in the Texas Forensics Association. His senior year, his four-man Entrepreneurship Team won the State Championship at the Skills USA Competition and will compete at Nationals in Kentucky this June. He was in the homecoming court, and presently, he has been nominated for Mr. AHS.

Caleb loves to tutor, volunteer (1145 hours), play the piano and bring out the best in those around him. His favorite hobbies are snow skiing, water skiing and ice skating. He will be taking his ice skates with him to the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia this fall, where he plans to major in finance and achieve a bachelor's degree in economics. He has been selected for the Ben Franklin Scholars Program (College of Arts and Sciences Honors) and also the Joseph Wharton Scholars Program (Business Honors). His long-term plans include investment banking, M.B.A. then private equity.

Caleb and his family want to give God all the glory for all the great things God has done and the countless mercies He has given.

Cody Standridge

Cody Standridge is a 2015 graduate of Carl Albert High School, Del City, Okla. He is the son of Darrell and Gina Standridge, and the grandson of Richard Hatton, Shirley Byrd Emmerling, and Darrell and Barbara Standridge.

Cody is an Academic Letter Jacket recipient and will be a valedictorian in his class. He carries a 4.24 GPA. He is a member of the ACT 100 club and 4.0 club. He has received awards in world history and English II classes. He plans to attend college in the fall of 2015. He has been accepted to several universities, but is undecided at this time. OU and NYU are his top choices. He plans on studying engineering.

Drew Dennis

Drew Dennis is a 2015 graduate of The Woodlands High School, The Woodlands, Texas. He is the son of Missy and Peter Dennis, and the grandson of the late Jane and John Hughey.

He was very active in TWHS Student Council and served as senior class vice-president, as well as president of the National Honor Society this year. He is a letterman in academics, student council and Interact service organization. He is interested in pursuing a business degree, and possibly a law degree in the future. Drew will be attending Texas A&M University this fall.

Alyssa Carter

Alyssa Carter is a 2015 graduate of the Denver School of Science and Technology, GVR Campus. She is from Denver, Colo. She is the daughter of Kelly and Gerry Carter, granddaughter of Kathy Potter, of Colorado, the great-granddaughter of the late Virginia Chapman, of Oklahoma, and the great-great-granddaughter of the late Winnie (Neighbors) Blocker and Claude Blocker, of Oklahoma, original enrollee.

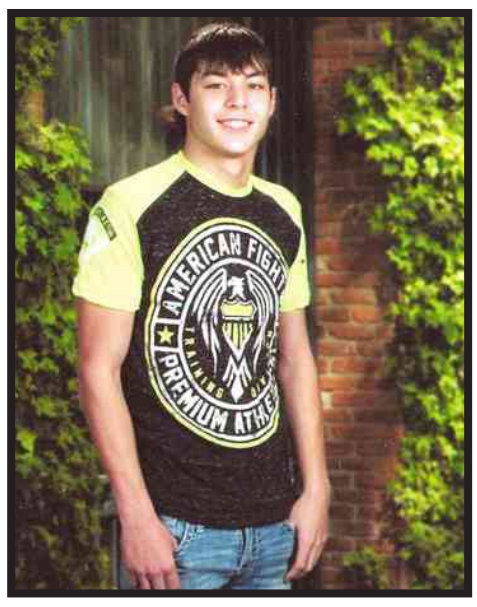
Alyssa has done great things throughout her high school career. She has played soccer and volleyball for three years. She decided to take her senior year off to dedicate more time to her studies and her Entrepreneurship class. At Christmas Alyssa did her best yet. Alyssa contacted the Ronald McDonald House in the area and asked them what they needed for the kids there. She put together their wish list and called a group of students together and did a fund raiser. The group raised $300 and the kids were all assigned a job to do. They went shopping for toys, movies, and cleaning items that were on their list. They took the toys and movies to the kids, celebrated with Santa and Mrs. Claus then of course were able to give all of the cleaning supplies to the facility to help them stock up. Her future plans will either take her to Regis University in Denver or Colorado State University in Ft. Collins to become a Nutritionist. We know that no matter what she does in life that she will give it 100% and not be ordinary but extraordinary in where her path leads her!

Chance Jared Haiakanubbi

Chance Jared Haiakanubbi is a 2015 graduate of Take Two Academy. He is from Ardmore, Okla. He is the son of Lawanna and Lewis Haiakanubbi and is the grandson of the late Rev. David Lewis and the late Doris Kaniatobe.

Chance loves to play tennis and web designing. He also loves his cat, Carl, and is planning to go to college at Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Durant, to major in computer science.

Dakota B. Smith



Dakota B. Smith is a 2015 graduate of Bennington High School, Bennington, Okla. He is the son of Martha Haislip.

He is active in FFA and ag. He likes to spend his time hanging out with friends, riding around, and feeding cows.

He plans to attend Tulsa Welding School after graduation.

Dakota Brady George

Dakota Brady George is a 2015 graduate of Guthrie High School. He is from Arcadia, Okla. He is the son of Lorie and Kenny George, and the grandson of Leon and Sandra Brown, Martha Jean and Donald Wilbourn, and Olen and Wilma George.

Dakota has played golf for four years and basketball for one year. He plans to attend Oklahoma State University in the fall of 2015 and major in aerospace engineering.

Darion Michael Cook

Darion Michael Cook is a 2015 graduate of Vanoss High School Vanoss, Okla. He is the son of Lacey Cook, of Stratford, Okla., and Michael Hankins, of Valliant, Okla., and is the grandson of Carl Cook, of Ada, Okla., and Anita Miller, of Madill, Okla., and Ruthel Hankins, of Valliant.

Darion is active in the Chickasaw Nation martial arts program, Chikasha Apihch Ikbi program, and works part time at Lazer Zone Family Fun Center. His plans after graduation are to attend East Central University and obtain a degree in kinesiology.

Dustin Hogue

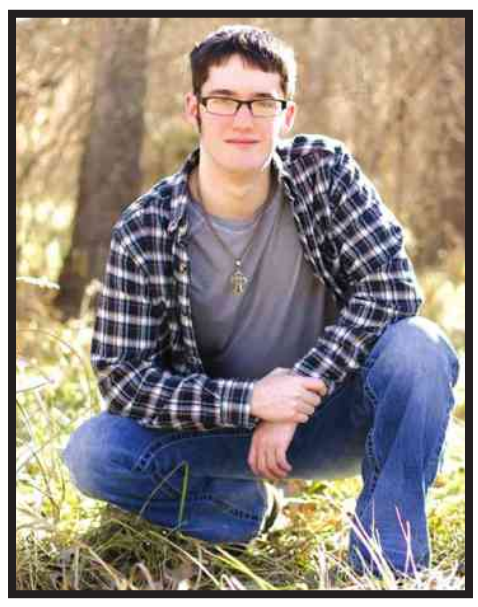
Dustin Hogue is a 2015 graduate of Moore High School, Moore, Okla. He is the son of Danny and Lisa Hogue, and the grandson of Marcell and Clifford Hogue.

Dustin loves four wheeling, camping, hunting and fishing. He has done a lot of volunteer work while in high school for senior citizens and the food pantry. Dustin plans on following in his father's footprints in a career in HVAC.

Gemini Rocha

Gemini Rocha is a 2015 graduate of Sulphur High School, Sulphur, Okla. He is the son of Jose and Amy Rocha.

Ethan J. Lee



Ethan J. Lee is a 2015 graduate of Newcastle High School, Newcastle, Okla. He is the son of Robert J. and Pamela Lee, and he grandson of Jim and Sherry Upton, of Tishomingo, Okla., and Julia Lee and the late Bob Lee, of Moore, Okla.

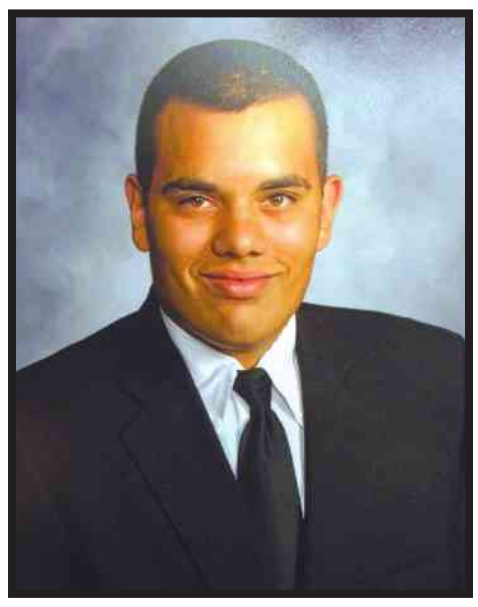
He is National Technical Honor Society member, and Newcastle Sporting Clays Shooting Team member in 2011. He enjoys computer gaming, building and fixing computer equipment, especially for this grandfather who is his biggest customer. His future plans are to continue his computer science and networking education at Oklahoma City Community College starting the summer of 2015.

Gavin Burress Risbry

Gavin Burress Risbry is a 2015 graduate of El Sereno High School, Fair Oaks, Calif. He is the son of Trevor and Shelly Risbry, brother of Addison Risbry, grandson of JoAnn Lewis, Anna Maria Risbry, and the late Wilson B. Lewis, and the great-grandson of original enrollee, Floyd Waldon.

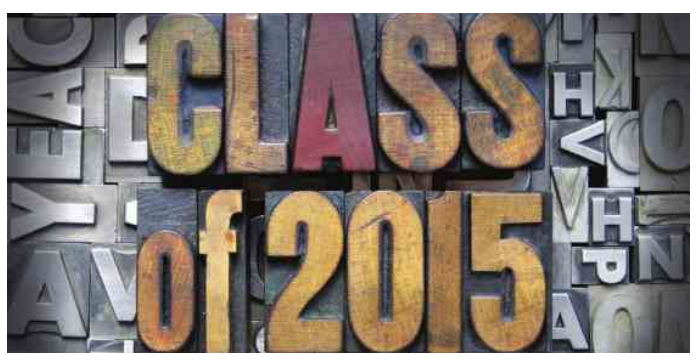
He participated in lacrosse all four years at Bella Vista High School. He received Second Team All League Award in 2014. He has been a member of various travel lacrosse teams and played at the World Lacrosse Championships in Denver in the summer of 2014. He has participated in student government and will be graduating with a 3.2 cumulative GPA. He will be attending California State University, Chico, as a business marketing major this fall and will be playing lacrosse for the Chico State Wildcats.

Jay Dylan Lee Lane



Jay Dylan Lee Lane, of Ravia, Okla., is a 2015 graduate of Tishomingo High School, Tishomingo, Okla. He is the son of Tina and Butch Nichols, brother of Carla Lane, and grandson of J.D. and Janett Lane.

Jay played baseball, was a member of FFA, and attends the Baptist church. He plans to go to mortuary school and become a licensed embalmer. He is currently employed part-time at Tishomingo Funeral Home.



Jessica Williams

Jessica Williams is a 2015 graduate of Luther High School, Luther, Okla. She is the daughter of Jennifer Ragland-Williams, and the granddaughter of Jim and Mary Teresa Ragland, and the late Jim and Ann McKeown.

She is member of Student Council, FFA, Art Club, Chickasaw Honor Club, National Honor Society, and is on the Superintendent's Honor Roll. She has attended the Chickasaw Nation Aviation and Space Camp for four years and the National Space Camp for three years. She enjoys four-wheeling and kayaking.

She plans to attend Rose State University in the fall to pursue a degree in political science.

Kali Vineyard

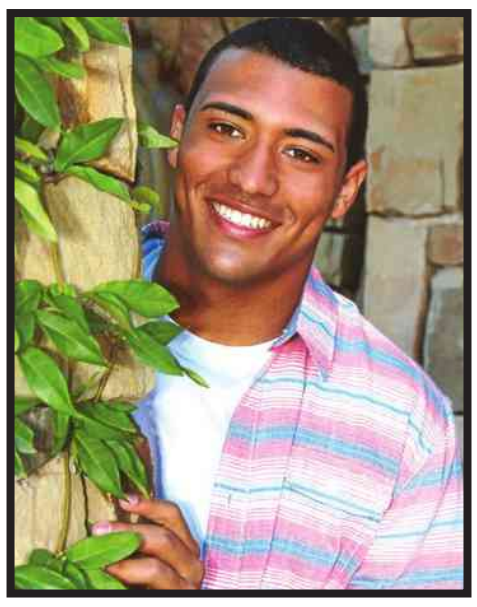
Kali Vineyard is a 2015 graduate of Davis High School, Davis, Okla. She is the daughter of Tolon and Shana Vineyard, and has two younger brothers, Bradley and Brandon Vineyard.

Kanan Ryan Wisdom

Kanan Ryan Wisdom, of Ada, Okla., is a 2015 graduate of Allen High School, Allen, Okla. He is the son of Debra Wisdom and Kevin Wisdom, and the grandson of Darla Wolf, Noah Wisdom, Jr., and Louise Shields, all of Ada.

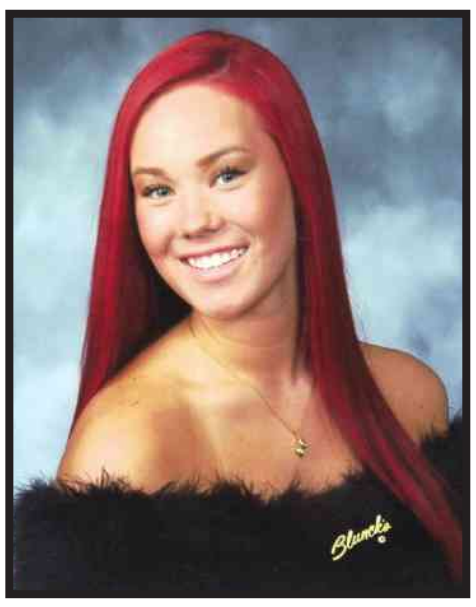
He was on the Principal's Honor Roll, member of the Indian Club, Chickasaw Honor Club, captain of the basketball team, four-year letterman in basketball, baseball and track, on the Pontotoc Conference Basketball All Conference team, Basketball All-Tournament at Moss Tournament, and 4 Love of the Game's March Madness All-Indian High School Tournament. He plans to go to college after high school.

Nathaniel Johnson



Nathaniel Johnson is a 2015 graduate of Sulphur High School, Sulphur, Okla. He is the son of Amy Rocha.

Kassey LeWayne Scruggs



Kassey LeWayne Scruggs is a 2015 graduate of Cache High School, Cache, Okla. She is the daughter of Brandy L. (Myers)-Juarez and Luis Juarez, and David Scruggs, granddaughter of Pastor Jim and Phyllis Myers, and Yun Scruggs, and great-granddaughter of the late Wayne and Eva Leoma Nichols.

She was an athletic trainer for the Cache Bulldogs football team and soccer team for a total of five years. She played volleyball for one year. She is a member of the National Honor Society, Native American Club, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Restoration Church of God, and Restoration Runners. She has attended Cache schools from Pre-K through 12th grade. She enjoys spending time with her family and friends, running in 5k races with her church running group, Restoration Runners, and working at Santa Fe Steak House as a server. She plans on attending Cameron University in Lawton, Okla. Her course of study is undecided at this time.

Katelynn Russell

Katelynn Russell, of Maysville, Okla., is a 2015 graduate of Paoli High School, Paoli, Okla. She is the daughter of Monica Pickett, sister of Hunter Russell, and the granddaughter of Darron D. Pickett, of Pauls Valley, Okla., and Mary Lorene Renfro, of Wynnewood, Okla.

She played softball for 15 years. In her free time, she loves to ride horses with friends, go to church and fish. She will attend Oklahoma State University in the fall of 2015 for veterinary medicine to earn a DVM license, and one day open her own Equine Veterinary Clinic.

Mikayla Ann Hook

Mikayla "Kayla" Ann Hook is a 2015 graduate of Tishomingo High School, Tishomingo, Okla. She is the daughter of Michael and Deborah Hook, sister of Heath Hook, and granddaughter of Lonnie and Ruth Shelley, of Tishomingo, Okla., and Betty Martin, of Pontotoc, Okla.

She played three years of softball, four years of basketball, four years of golf, and three years of track. She was also a member of Student Council for three years, member of the Chickasaw Youth Leadership, and a cheerleader for one year. She was a 2015 Basketball Homecoming Queen candidate, and the 2014 American Heart Association Sweetheart. She was also on the 2015 Kingston New Year's Classic All Tournament Team. She plans to attend Murray State College for an associates degree and then transfer to East Central University or Southeastern University and major in dental hygiene.

Kaylee Lambeth

Kaylee Lambeth is a 2015 graduate of Pauls Valley High School, Pauls Valley, Okla. She is the daughter of Amber Lambeth, and the granddaughter of Montie and Linda Low, and Joe and Sharon Harris.

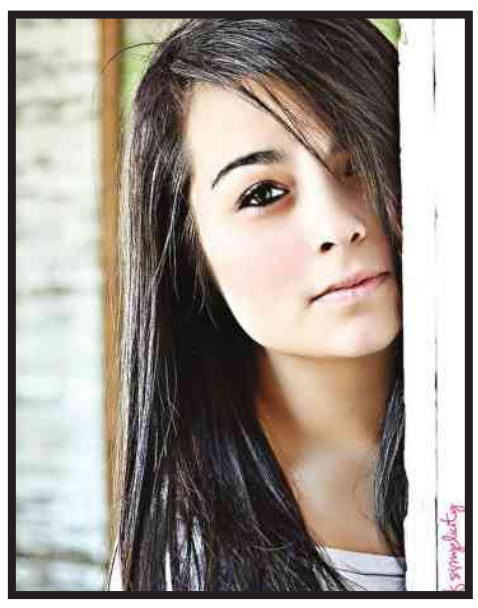
She is a member of FCCLA, BPA Club, Prayer Warriors, varsity basketball, and the pom squad. Kaylee plans to attend the University of Oklahoma and major in psychology to become a sports psychologist.

Lizbeth Mae Phillips

Lizbeth Mae Phillips is a 2015 graduate of Madill High School, Madill, Okla. She is the daughter of Perry and Sandra Phillips, sister of Bethany and Jessie Phillips, and the granddaughter of the late Peggy Goodman Skinner, of Ardmore, Okla., Richard Phillips, of Bolivar, Mo., and Mr. and Mrs. Sammy Martin, of Mason, Texas.

She has been active in Marshall County 4H and the Madill FFA. She recently earned her FFA State degree. She is also a member of the Madill FFA Livestock Judging Team. She loves wrestling and has served as the mat maid for the Madill Wildcats for the past three years. She is a member of the Madill National Honor Society and the First United Methodist Church of Madill. She is also a member of Chikasha Apihchi Ikbi (Creating Chickasaw Leaders) program. She loves to travel. Her favorite spot to visit so far is New York City. She has served as a volunteer at the Madill Bread of Life, Relay for Life, Walk for Sexual Abuse Awareness, Ruel Little classic and many mission activities with Madill Methodist Youth, 4H and FFA. She plans to attend Oklahoma State University in the fall and major in agri-business with a minor in finance. She also hopes to be a mat maid for the OSU Cowboys' wrestling team.

MaKayla Dollar



MaKayla Dollar is a 2015 graduate of Tishomingo High School, Tishomingo, Okla. She is he daughter of Crystal Deaton and Bill Dollar, Jr., sister of Jason and Keely Dollar, and Gage Heffley, and the granddaughter of Charlotte Deaton and the late Kelly Deaton, and the late Judy Alexander.

She has attended Tishomingo schools for 13 years and is active in art and choir. In her spare time, she enjoys writing, drawing, singing, and spending time with her friends. She plans on attending Murray State College in the fall and hopes to transfer to East Central University to study art.

Lynsi Alexandra Stanley

Lynsi Alexandra Stanley, of Moore, Okla., is a 2015 graduate of Destiny Christian School in Del City, Okla. She is the daughter of Greg and Andrea Stanley, and Michell and Kurt Stute, and the granddaughter of Jerry and Betty Stanley, David and Madonna Gallant, and Louise Gallant.

She was elected president of the student body. She was chosen as treasurer for her school's National Honor Society. She is a team captain for her high school girls' two-time state championship basketball team, and first runner-up in the 2013-2014 National Championship. She was chosen for Oklahoma All-State Basketball both her junior and senior years. She is a sprinter on her high school track team and a starter on her high school volleyball team. She is a singer/leader in both her high school and church worship bands. She was a member of the second place team at the Oklahoma Business Week at East Central University in 2013. She was selected to participate in the Del Quest community involvement program for high school juniors. She was elected as governor for the mock legislature during her week working as a page for the Oklahoma House of Representatives. She has won numerous awards for outstanding achievement in both academics and sports. She has maintained a 4.00 GPA throughout her four years in high school and has been named valedictorian of her senior class. She has received the Dean's Scholarship at Oklahoma Christian University and plans to major in mechanical engineering and is undecided where to attend for her graduate degree in aerospace engineering. She has excellent communication and leadership skills and serves as a wonderful role model for others.

Mandy Bennett

Mandy Bennett, of Ada, Okla., is a 2015 graduate of Byng High School, Ada, Okla. She is the daughter of Michael and Sheila Bennett, and the granddaughter of Ramona Miller and Robert Huggins, Stan and Pauline Wells, Geneva Holman and the late Nathan "Johnny" Holman, the late Henrietta Brown, the late Jeff and Elsie Alexander, original enrollee, and the late Mary Jane Sheilds.

WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU

Time has flown by so fast, it was just yesterday that you were just a baby in our arms, and now you have grown-up to a beautiful young lady with goals and ambitions. You have conquered and overcame many things in your young life and I know the Lord has great work in store for you to accomplish in life. Everything that you choose to do can be attained if you set your mind to it so reach for the stars as you set out on this great path of life and start a new chapter.

Whatever your dreams are and your heart is set on doing you will have your family and friends supporting you along the way. You are never alone in this life you will always have your family that supports all your endeavors so dream big and wish for the Stars.

LOVE YOU,

MOM, DAD, CHRIS, GRANDMA, MOM AND ROBERT, GRANDMA AND GRANDPA BENNETT, PAPA & MIMI, DODO, AND YOUR UNCLE ROBBIE AND MANY OTHER RELATIVES

Mary Lee (Shaw) Morris

Mary Lee (Shaw) Morris, of Edmond, Okla., is a 2015 graduate of the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, College of Nursing, Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner Program. She is the wife of Jimmy Morris, daughter of the late Ronnie Keith Shaw and Rita Sockwell Shaw, and the granddaughter of the late Charles Oscar Shaw, Jr., and Oretha "Ruth" Parnacher Hilton. She was a member of Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society (2015) and became a Board Certified Gastroenterology Registered Nurse (2014). She was also involved in summer medical/dental mission trips to the Dominican Republic, was a volunteer nurse at the LoveOKC student conference, first aid volunteer at LoveOKC one day event, OKC Memorial half-marathon runner (2012), OKC Memorial full-marathon runner (2013). Upon passing the Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner certification exam this summer, she plans to work as a nurse practitioner in gastroenterology in the Oklahoma City metropolitan area. Her long-term goal is to serve as a medical provider in foreign missions.

Michael Dean Lynch

Michael Dean Lynch, of Sparks, Okla., is a 2015 graduate of Prague High School Prague, Okla. He is the son of Lisa Byars and Dusty Lynch, and is the grandson of Jackie and Gary Byars, and Brenda and Gary Lynch, of Bethel Acres, Okla.

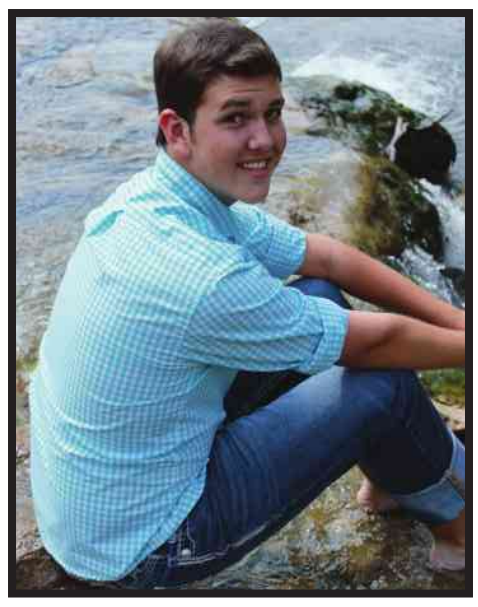
He is a very smart and responsible young man. He is currently taking classes at Gordon Cooper Technology Center, studying heat and air. He has been employed at Firelake Grocery for a year, and plans to work this summer doing heating and air. His family is very proud of all that he has done and accomplished. We love you Michael, Grandma and Grandpa Byars

Logan J. Miller

Logan J. Miller, of Oklahoma City, is a 2015 graduate of Westmoore High School. He is the son of Jena D. McNamar and John W. Miller, and grandson of Carroll and Norma Clifton, and Earl and Marie Miller.

During high school, he enjoyed Student Council, basketball and track. Following graduation, he plans on attending the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond, Okla. Logan will be majoring in biology/pre-med. He is interested in working with people and helping others in the field of medicine. After completing his bachelor's degree, he plans on attending the University of Oklahoma medical school. He hopes to become a medical doctor and/or surgeon.

Tristin Judd Lackey



Tristin Judd Lackey, of Milburn, Okla., is a 2015 graduate of Coleman High School. He is the son of Wade and Rogie Whittington, grandson of Mike and Fay Christian, Roger and Martha Lackey, and Marilyn Whittington, and the great-grandson of Kay Green, Susan Christian, and Dean Starns.

His hobbies include hunting, fishing and working. He is ranked fourth in his class and currently plans to attend Southeastern Oklahoma State University in the fall of 2015. He has received student of the month three times this year has been the treasurer of his class for the past two years, and this year, as a senior, he is the vice president. He plays basketball, is on the archery team, and is the manager of the high school softball team. Over the years he has been to several summer camps including NASA's Advanced Space Academy, Oklahoma Business Week, SOSU's Entrepreneurship Academy, and several sports camps. He is in CAIP, a leadership group sponsored by the Chickasaw Nation. He currently works for the Chickasaw Nation in the Division of Youth Services working at the Chickasaw Youth Club in Tishomingo, Okla. He has received the Presidential Leadership Scholarship for SOSU and will continue furthering his education in youth leadership. He would like to thank the Chickasaw Nation for all the help and support the tribe gives to their youth, because without them, he wouldn't be where he is today.

Rebecca Jane Turner

Rebecca Jane Turner is a 2015 graduate of Skiatook High School, Skiatook, Okla. She is the daughter of Rocky and Tracy Turner, granddaughter of Patricia (Shico) Jones, of Madill, Okla., Jim and Ruth Burke, of Tulsa, Okla., the late Richard Jones, Joyce (Kendrick) Burke, and Jim Turner, and great-granddaughter of the late Douglas and Gracie (Spradling) Shico, Author and Mary Jane (Jensen) Turner, Henry and Ethel (Plumleigh) Kendrick, and George and Regina (Moore) Burke.

Rebecca has been active in the Skiatook marching band program for four years, the drama team for two years, and has performed in several of the school plays. She has several superior ratings in percussion performances and has had many top finishes in dramatic interpretation. She has been on the high school track team four years, and is a state qualifier. She is a member of the First Baptist Church of Skiatook and is very active in church and plays the drums for the youth band. She plans to attend Tulsa Community College on a theater scholarship to pursue a degree in theater.

Noah Anderson Gordon

Noah Anderson Gordon is a 2015 graduate of Sulphur High School, Sulphur, Okla. He is the son of Daniel J. Gordon and Cheri L. Bellefeuille-Gordon, grandson of the late Russell Bellefeuille and late Donna Bellefeuille, the late Jack Gordon and the late Billye Gordon, great-grandson of the late Ben Seeley and Viola Seeley, the late John Bellefeuille and the late Isabelle Bellefeuille, the late Jack Gordon and Clarise Gordon, and the late Clovis Smith and the late Alice Smith.

He has a 3.92 GPA and is ranked 5/85 in his class. He is an honors graduate, member of the Chickasaw Nation Honor Club, Oklahoma Honor Society, National Honor Society and Superintendent's Honor Roll. He was the Sulphur Kiwanis Sophomore of the Year 2013, Chickasaw Nation Agriculture Scholarship Program 2015, Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Achievement for January 2015, Sulphur Rotary Outstanding Senior for February 2015, Chickasaw Nation Outstanding Athlete of the Week/Commercial for March 2015. He was a member of the 12-year club, and was awarded the 2012 Murray County Livestock Judging second place award, FFA Horticulture Award, FFA Greenhand Award, FFA Discovery Chapter, FFA Goat Production, FFA Agricultural Leadership Proficiency, and FFA State Degree. He was a part of the Dynamic Young Musicians Club, Spanish Club, Chikasha Apihchi Ikbi, FFA, was FFA historian and treasurer.

He was also involved with the Key Club, and Student Council as the senior class representative. He was a part of the varsity baseball team, where he was a left-handed pitcher and right fielder, and the varsity basketball team as the senior captain. He was also involved in the Chickasaw Nation Summer Youth Program, was a goat breeder and owner, exhibited and placed wether goats, doe goats, and a pig. He was an ambassador for March of Dimes and Walk-A-Thon team and donor, Special Olympics volunteer, part of Oklahoma City Children's Hospital's Noah's Project Baskets to NICU, Sulphur Kiwanis Club and Key Club pancake suppers, coat drive, Santa Helpers, and trash clean up. He represented the Sulphur High School basketball team at a one-on-one meeting with Russell Westbrook, of the Oklahoma City Thunder, sponsored by BancFirst in 2014. He is a member of the Abundant Life Church and volunteers with the children's church program. Noah has been accepted to the University of Oklahoma to pursue a degree in computer engineering.

Benjamin Davidson

Benjamin Davidson, of Shady Shores, Texas, is a 2015 graduate of Billy Ryan High School, Denton, Texas. He is the son of Bobby and Julie Davidson, and grandson of John Andersen, of Coweta, Okla., the late Elizabeth Andersen, Janette Watson, of Little Elm, Texas, and the late Donald Davidson.

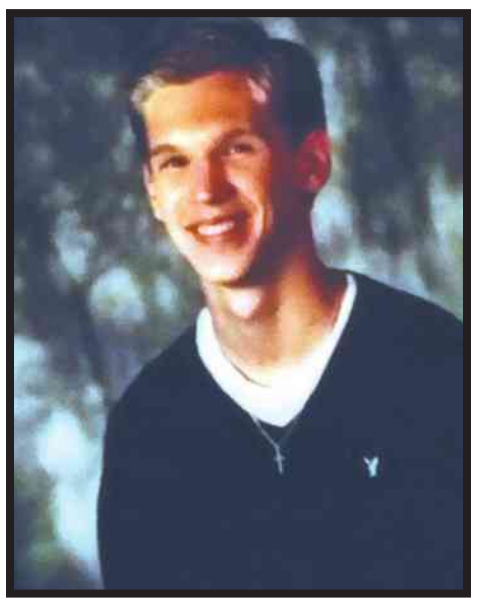
He played baseball as the catcher, was named one of Denton ISD Scholar Athletes, and a member of student council. He was also on the FFA welding team where the projects he built won awards at the San Antonio Stock Show, Denton County Stock Show and TSA State iTech Competition in Waco, Texas. He is also active in his church youth group, and Showcase baseball. His future plans are to pursue a degree in applied sciences with a focus on CNC machining.

Adam Whiting Taylor

Adam Whiting Taylor, of North Bend, Wash., is a 2015 graduate of Mount Si High School, Snoqualmie, Wash. He is the son of Matthew and Jan Taylor, grandson of Dr. Ronald and Susan Taylor, and great-great grandson of Lillie Sacra Whiting, an original enrollee.

He is a two-year varsity wrestler and enjoys playing and making guitars, bowyery, and working on his car. He is attending Central Washington University in the fall and plans on studying forestry management.

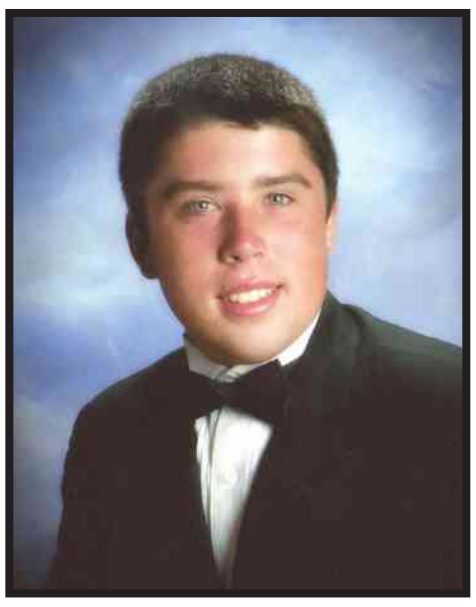
Tyler Scott Stine



Tyler Scott Stine is a 2015 graduate of Woodinville High School, Woodinville, Wash. He is the son of Travis and Amy Stine, and grandson of Lewis and Vernelle Roane, and the late Arlington and Barbara Stine.

He focused on advanced studies in math, government, psychology and U.S. history. He was also involved with basketball and tennis in high school. Tyler will be studying political science and law at the University of Washington. He plans to pursue a career in law and politics.

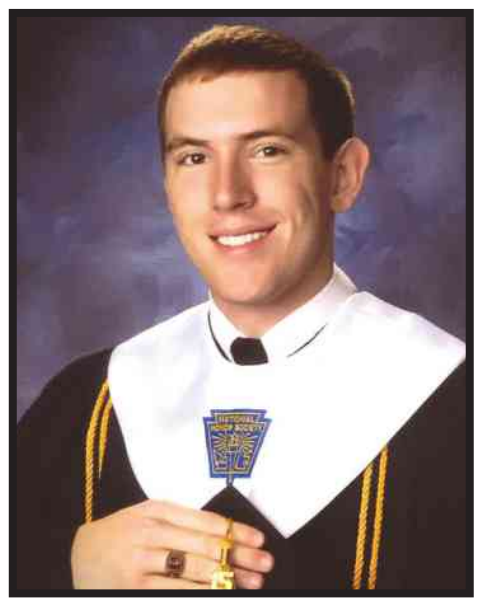
William Mozell Schwabe



William Mozell Schwabe , of Plymouth, Calif., is a 2015 graduate of Amador High School. He is the son of Forrest and Carol Schwabe, and grandson of Mozell and Barbara Wagner, and Forrest and Marilyn Schwabe.

He attended Amador High school for four years, playing soccer and baseball. While in high school, he worked as a lifeguard and soccer referee. In two years, he completed the requirements to upgrade his referee license to a grade 7, allowing him to referee high-end soccer games. After graduation, he will attend part-time (summer) at Folsom Lake College - El Dorado Center, with his cousin, and full-time in the fall, majoring in criminal justice. During the summer, he will complete the requirements to become a high school referee and work in his parents' residential home for developmentally disabled adults.

Maxwell Parker Sanders



Maxwell Parker Sanders is a 2015 graduate of Fossil Ridge High School, Keller, Texas. He is the son of Jeff and Samantha Sanders, brother of William Sanders, and grandson of Jim and DeAnna Little, and the late Bill and Eveonne Sanders.

Maxwell is graduating in the top 10 of his graduating class. He participated in and has been involved with the National Honor Society, marching band, where he played percussion, the drumline, and Latin Club. He is the drummer on his church's worship team. He has been playing for many years. He is a member of the Chickasaw Nation Honor Club. He will be attending the University of Texas at Arlington in August. He will be working to complete a degree in computer science. His great-grandmother was Wynema Vale Little and she would have been so proud to see this day as we are. Congratulations, Maxwell!!!

Sydney Astoria Mosshart

Sydney Astoria Mosshart is a 2015 homeschool graduate. She is the daughter of Joey and Shelli Mosshart, and sister of Jory and Blake Mosshart. She attended Southwest Covenant School in Yukon, Okla., from kindergarten to 10th grade.

She studied classical Russian ballet for 12 years at the Academy of Ballet and Theatre Arts. She performed in many ballets including Cinderella, Sleeping Beauty, Don Quixote, the University of Oklahoma's The Nutcracker, and Tulsa Ballet's The Nutcracker. She has been on multiple mission trips with Crossings Community Church, is a member of the high school worship team, and helps lead worship in CCC's elementary program. Aside from that, she enjoys serving at Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma and other missions in the OKC area. She will be attending Oklahoma City University in the fall on a full-ride scholarship to the Meinders School of Business. She was awarded the Native American Business Academy Scholarship and will be majoring in business administration. She would like to thank her parents for the love and support they have given her through the years and all the sacrifices they made to better her as a person. Sydney's favorite quote is, "I have decided to stick with love. Hate is too great a burden to bear." -Martin Luther King, Jr.

Julia Rose Miller

Julia Rose Miller, of Ravia, Okla., is a 2015 graduate of Tishomingo High School, Tishomingo, Okla. She is the daughter of Tommy and Sherie Miller, and granddaughter of the late Lillian Marie Miller, Barbara Watkins, Ben Miller, Frank Watkins, and Roger Kopp.

She has been active in choir for three years, and FCCLA for four years. She has been on the Governor's Honor Roll. Her future plans are to go to Vo-Tech for cosmetology, and working.

Darian Janae Cravatt

Darian Janae Cravatt is a 2015 graduate of Sulphur High School, Sulphur, Okla. She is the daughter of Phillip and Amanda Mize, and Sood Cravatt, and granddaughter of the late Retha (Kirby) Cravatt, Brenda and Tommy Sexton, and Mike Watson.

She is currently attending SOTC in Ardmore, Okla., for cosmetology. She also plays softball, and is a member of FFA. Her future plan is to become a cosmetologist.

Kurstyn Brooke Beaird

Kurstyn Brooke Beaird is a 2015 graduate of Fox Public School, Fox, Okla. She is the daughter of Curtis Beaird and Shannon Young, and the granddaughter of Larry and Barbara Beaird, Kathy Smith, and the late Bill Smith.

She was a member of Fox FCCLA, in the Chickasaw Honor Club carrying a 4.0 GPA. She loves backroading, and having fun with all of her best friends. She will be attending Southeastern Oklahoma State University to work toward getting her RN license.

Lea Lynn Hall

Lea Lynn Hall, of Plymouth, Calif., is a 2015 graduate of Amador High School. She is the daughter of the late Kathy Wagner and Robert Hall, and granddaughter of Mozell and Barbara Wagner, who is raising her.

She has attended Amador High School for four years, working at various jobs in Amador County, the Extended Day Learning Program and Walgreens. She was part of the Amador High School yearbook club for her junior and senior year. After graduation, she will attend Folsom Lake College - El Dorado Center, with her cousin, taking a few college courses over the summer and full-time in the fall. She will be majoring in childhood education, hoping to get a teaching degree in elementary education.

Dustin 'Price' Rowe II

Dustin "Price" Rowe II is a 2015 graduate of Tishomingo High School, Tishomingo, Okla. He is the son of Dustin and Nicole Rowe, grandson of Ray and Brenda Rowe, and Ronnie and Lanette Coppedge, great-grandson of Ray and Pinky Rowe, Bill and Loyce Muse, and Fleta Coppedge, and great-great-grandson of original Chickasaw enrollee Mamie Hughes.

He has been in Tishomingo band since 5th grade. He has been a member of The Pride of Little Dixie band since 8th grade. He was first chair trumpet in the all-district band his senior year. At various times during high school, he has played golf, basketball, football and run cross county. He attended Murray State College as a concurrent student during high school and will graduate with 36 college hours. He is also an active member of the Tishomingo Assembly of God youth group.

He will be attending Southwestern Assemblies of God University in Waxahachie, Texas this fall. After graduation he plans on going to law school at the University of Oklahoma or becoming an Oklahoma Highway Patrolman.